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CENTRAL GLOUCESTERSHIRE UNITED
DISTRICTS (M.O.H.) JOINT COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Public Health Departments

for the Year 1959



Medical Officer of Health:

W. J. Douglas Cooper, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Districts:

Dursley Rural District Nailsworth Urban District
Stroud Rural District Stroud Urban District
~~Wootton Bassett Rural District~~
Thornbury Rural District

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CENTRAL GLOUCESTERSHIRE UNITED DISTRICTS
(M.O.H.) JOINT COMMITTEE

**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year
ending 31st December, 1959**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the Central Gloucestershire United Districts as directed by the Minister of Health in Regulations 5(3) and 15(5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959, and also in his Circular letter 1/60 of the 8th January, 1960. The Regulations define the scope of the Annual Report and enable your Medical Officer of Health to comment on any matter which he thinks desirable in relation to the Public Health of the Area.

The Minister has asked for certain changes to be made in the reporting of Vital Statistics and these have been amended and added to individual sections of the Report. He has also asked for a report on any Public Swimming Baths in the District and a special report with a photograph has been inserted in the section dealing with sanitary conditions in the Stroud Urban District.

The principal Vital Statistics are comparable with England and Wales as a whole. This can be seen by studying the comparative table for the five Districts. The Birth Rate is above the National Average in both Dursley and Thornbury Rural Districts. The Infant Mortality Rate in all Districts is well below the National Average and that for Stroud Urban District has been reduced from 40.03 to 16.4 this year. The adjusted Death Rate is below the National Average in four of the Districts and in Stroud Urban District it is just on the National Average.

The population as a whole tends to increase annually and it may be that when the new Census is taken that this District will show a large increase in its population.

In relation to Infectious Disease, we have again prepared a combined table of notifications. Last year in the Stroud Area there was an epidemic of Measles and this year we had it in the Dursley and Thornbury Rural Districts.

It is very pleasing to report that in the whole of the Central Area of Gloucestershire there was not one case of Acute Poliomyelitis reported during 1959 as compared with three last year. We would like to think that this is entirely due to the Vaccination programme against this disease, as a tremendous lot of hard work was put in during the year by Local Authority Doctors, Health Visitors and General Practitioners to get the Vaccination Index up as high as possible in a short time.

The number of cases of Dysentery notified in the Stroud Rural District was due principally to the outbreak of the disease which occurred in a Housing Estate at Stonehouse. This was well controlled by prompt action from the Health Department and

inside a few weeks the whole outbreak was dormant. Household contacts of all known cases were asked to give specimen stools and it is pleasing to note that no one refused to co-operate, which speaks well for the co-operation of the public in relation to an outbreak of this type. All children suffering from the disease were kept from school until they received treatment and produced three negative stools and any adult working with or handling foodstuffs was suspended from work until he or she had treatment followed by negative stools. This mild type of Dysentery which in all cases was the Sonné variety, reacted well to the "Sulpha" Drugs and where necessary, some of the newer Antibiotics. It was found that Intermittent Excretors and Convalescent Carriers could be cleared up but the big difficulty in an outbreak of this type is the control of the Healthy Carrier of the germ. This outbreak entailed a lot of work for the Health Department Staff as hundreds of faecal specimens had to be arranged and transported to the Laboratory. During the outbreak we had the utmost co-operation with the Bristol Laboratory.

The outbreak in Thornbury Rural District was an insidious one which occurs from time to time in Hortham Hospital. The Medical Superintendent and his staff were able to keep it under control without help from us.

Progress has been made in relation to all types of Immunisation and Vaccination during the year. We have been concentrating principally on Vaccination against Poliomyelitis and this seems to have had some success as the number of cases reported in a population of approximately 93,000 has been reduced from 14 cases in 1957 to nil in 1959. It is to be hoped that during 1960 enough British Vaccine will be available to inoculate all those people who desire this protective measure.

From the figures presented to you in the Statistical section of Immunisation, it will be seen that much more attention will have to be paid to the immunisation of children against Whooping Cough and Diphtheria. Many parents have been concentrating on protection against Poliomyelitis to the detriment of protection against other Diseases.

The County Health Committee have decided to purchase "Triple" Vaccine during 1960 for use in all their Welfare Centres. I feel that this will be a big step forward in protecting the youngsters against Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Tetanus, and I hope that all parents will take advantage of the service offered through Child Welfare Centres, Local Authority Clinics or the General Practitioners' Surgeries. Vaccination against Smallpox is now offered at many of the Welfare Centres as well as at Doctors' Surgeries and it is important that with so much travel abroad taking place these days that all children have this protection carried out at an early age as Primary Vaccination can become more severe in reaction as one gets older.

The B.C.G. Vaccination Scheme against Tuberculosis is making good progress in all the Schools. All children, whose parents consent, are tested and vaccinated as necessary in the 13 plus school group.

Many of the improvements in the health of children would not be possible without the improvement in the environment, particularly in relation to Housing, so we must pursue earnestly our desire to get rid of all the slum and unfit houses in our respective Areas. There is still a big job ahead in this respect and although some progress has been made during 1959, it is to be hoped that all Councils in Central Gloucestershire will pursue the eradication of all the unfit houses in their respective Areas so that every family can live in a house free from damp, with no overcrowding and able to use all the domestic amenities of a house that one expects in this decade. A close study of the progress table in relation to Slum Clearance in the five Districts will prove illuminating to most Councillors and show them that there should be no complacency. In some cases the five year programme has been completed to time but in others there is a big leeway to be made up and also a further five year programme to be undertaken.

Most of the Central Area has now been served with a Mains Water Supply but efforts must be made to see that those properties with unfit domestic supplies should be brought on to the Mains Supply. During the year progress was made in relation to the Comprehensive Scheme for an improved water supply, with adequate storage, in the Dursley Rural District. This has been a long anticipated scheme which unfortunately is now only coming to fruition when the water supply of this District Council Area is being taken over by a Joint Board.

During the year some progress has been made in relation to Sewerage Schemes. The Uley Scheme was completed during the year and progress was made in relation to the Coaley Scheme which should be completed early in 1960. It is to be hoped that the owners of houses in these villages will take advantage of these expensive schemes as soon as they are completed so that many of the nuisances which I reported to the Ministry Inspectors at the time of the Enquiries will be eradicated for good and all.

The scheme for the sewerage of the lower part of the Chalford Valley in the Stroud Rural Area was also commenced during the year and an Enquiry was held by the Ministry in relation to the proposed extensions of the Sewerage Works at Stanley Downton.

In the Thornbury Rural District, the Alveston Scheme has been practically completed during the year and work commenced at Charfield which is to join up with the new Sewerage Scheme for Wotton-under-Edge and Kingswood in the Dursley Rural District.

Very large scale developments are likely to take place in the Thornbury Rural District during the next decade. I feel that progress in relation to Sewerage Schemes in this Area is too slow to compete with the anticipated development. Big efforts must be made to deal with the Almondsbury Scheme, the Tockington and Olveston Scheme, the Severn Beach and Pilning Scheme, the Scheme for extending the sewers at Thornbury at an early date. When these are completed there are still quite a few smaller schemes required to eradicate the nuisances in the District.

The Berkeley Nuclear Power Station construction has continued unabated during the year. The first of the Reactors should be putting electricity into the grid in the latter part of 1961. During the year the Central Electricity Generating Board constructed their own Sewerage Works at the Power Station. This is a modern works with full treatment, prior to the effluent going into the Severn. All the sewage which previously drained to the small Berkeley Sewerage Works is now going through their own works.

The Local Liaison Committee, which I mentioned in my last Report, was formed and met twice during the year. I have no doubts that this is proving a most useful Committee and I am sure will be a big factor in convincing the Councillors and General Public as a whole that the Nuclear Power Industry is one of the safest in the Country for any employee to work in.

The Central Electricity Generating Board have been most co-operative during the year in providing information about monitoring, co-operating with adjacent Local Authorities and whenever possible, arranging for visits of Members of Local Authorities and other Groups to the Power Station. I think that gradually the fear of Nuclear Power is receding and that people are realising that the Officers of the Central Electricity Generating Board are a responsible lot of men who have not only the health of their own employees at heart but also the health and welfare of those people who happen to live in the surrounding countryside.

Meat Inspection has been carried out in all the affected Districts on a 100% scale. This is most encouraging to me as a large proportion of our meat is moved to other Districts before consumption. It is very pleasing that the small Local Authority of Nailsworth is now able to handle its own Meat Inspection problems without help from adjacent Local Authorities. The Council now have three Public Health Inspectors for a population of 3,700 inhabitants but when one realizes that in 1958, 48,654 carcasses were inspected, one can see the immense task there is in this branch alone of Public Health. The Council should be congratulated on their progressive outlook on Public Health.

There are many more aspects of Public Health that I would like to comment on but so much time has been given up by your Public Health Inspectors in preparing their sections of the Report that I feel it would be wasting paper if I were to write further.

It will be seen that most of the Report deals with the work of the Public Health Inspectors and it is a great encouragement to the various Departments to feel that their recommendations are practically invariably supported by the Public Health Committees and Councils.

It therefore remains for me to thank the various Chairmen and Members of the Public Health Committees and Councils for their continued support during the year.

I would also like to thank the various Officers of the Public Health Departments and other Officers of the Councils for their assistance and co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

W. J. DOUGLAS COOPER,

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman and Members of:

The Dursley Rural District Council.

The Stroud Rural District Council.

The Thornbury Rural District Council.

The Nailsworth Urban District Council.

The Stroud Urban District Council.

TABLE SHOWING PROGRESS MADE IN DEALING WITH UNFIT HOUSES IN THE FIVE DISTRICTS FORMING THE CENTRAL AREA OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE

HOUSING :

- (a) Estimated number of unfit houses in the area (As returned to Minister)
- (b) Estimated number of unfit houses to be dealt with in first five years (as approved by Minister under Section 1 of the Housing Repairs & Rents Act, 1954) ..

Action in period 1-1-59 to 31-12-59 :

- (c) Number of houses in Clearance Areas declared during period
- (d) Number of houses in respect of which demolition orders were made
- (e) Number of houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made. (Not including any in Clearance Areas) ..
- (f) Number of houses subject to official Undertakings (not including any in Clearance Areas)

Houses made fit for human habitation :

- (g) Houses made fit under Section 9, Housing Act, 1957 ..
- (h) Houses included in (d), (e) or (f) made fit during the period ..
- (i) Houses included in (a) made fit by informal action ..

Houses acquired :

- (j) Number of unfit houses acquired by local authority (excluding houses in above categories)

Houses demolished :

- (k) Houses included in (a) actually demolished

Progress to 31-12-59 :

- (l) Total number of houses included in (a) above dealt with up to 31-12-59
- (m) Percentage of approved 5 year programme initiated to date

Improvements :

- Improvement Grants authorised in 1949-1958
- Improvement Grants authorised in 1959

*(a) including houses on which demolition orders were made following revocation of Closing Orders.

*(b) one subject to an Undertaking given in 1958.

*(c) 155 over 5 years.

	Dursley R.D.C.	Stroud R.D.C.	Thornbury R.D.C.	Nailsworth U.D.C.	Stroud U.D.C.
(a)	234	450	809	120	374
(b)	165	250	409	24	374
(c)	12	35	14	Nil	Nil
(d)	11	25	15	Nil	9*(a)
(e)	9	33	15	3	14
(f)	4	7	3	1	Nil
(g)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(h)	7	9	9	Nil	2*(b)
(i)	5	Nil	150*(c)	Nil	Nil
(j)	Nil	10	Nil	Nil	Nil
(k)	54	121	31	Nil	53
(l)	193	370	341	26	206
(m)	100%	100%	83.4%	100%	55.1%
Improvement Grants authorised in 1949-1958	228	223	215	30	117
Improvement Grants authorised in 1959	33	50	91	3	33

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE FIVE DISTRICTS — 1959

	England & Wales	Dursley R.D.C.	Stroud R.D.C.	Thornbury R.D.C.	Nailsworth U.D.C.	Stroud U.D.C.
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	16.5	17.24	16.02	19.56	13.17	15.31
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births ..	21.0	14.10	22.1	16.5	Nil	24.00
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 related live births	22.2	7.1	9.8	12.6	Nil	16.4
Neo-natal Mortality per 1,000 live births ..	15.8	7.1	7.3	8.4	Nil	16.4
Perinatal Mortality per 1,000 total live and still births	34.2	17.5	26.3	20.6	Nil	39.1
Death Rate per 1,000 population	11.6	10.92	10.99	10.52	8.21	11.65
Average Age at Death		71.86	70.67	70.93	68.6	70.42
Estimated Mid-Year Population, 1959	45,386,000	17,270	27,240	27,801	3,720	16,250

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN THE FIVE DISTRICTS DURING 1959

				Dursley R.D.C.	Stroud R.D.C.	Thornbury R.D.C.	Nailsworth U.D.C.	Stroud U.D.C.	
Measles	208	616	153	42	320
Whooping Cough	11	31	16	3	69
Scarlet Fever	20	6	13	2	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	3	3	1	6
Pneumonia	4	21	8	2	20
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	1	—	1
Erysipelas	2	2	3	2	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	1	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	3	—	—
Dysentery	—	53 (a)	75	8	7 (b)

(a) This does not include 2 cases originally notified but not confirmed.

(b) This does not include 4 cases originally notified but not confirmed.

Dursley Rural District Council

Chairman :

B. V. PROUT, Esq., J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

G. BILBRUCK, Esq.

Clerk of the Council :

H. A. PATE, Esq.

Councillors (1959/60)

Mrs. J. Chismon	W. J. Edmonds, Esq.
Mrs. M. Evans	J. S. Eley, Esq.
Mrs. N. F. Home	G. Elliott, Esq.
Mrs. M. M. Milner	C. W. Hill, Esq.
Mrs. J. E. Wheeler	O. E. H. Hill, Esq.
Brig. Sir Alan Durand, BART., M.C.	E. Jones, Esq.
Brig. K. F. W. Dunn, C.B.E.	D. Moss, Esq.
The Rev. W. A. Goater	E. A. Panes, Esq.
The Rev. Canon W. H. Thomas,, M.A.	E. L. Prosser, Esq.
B. F. Bartlett, Esq.	H. Stone, Esq.
R. C. A. Cleverly, Esq.	R. Barber Taylor, Esq.
A. F. Durn, Esq. (now deceased)	L. G. C. Townsend, Esq. J.P
	W. I. Tucker, Esq.
	L. A. Vaisey, Esq.
	M. V. G. F. Watts, Esq.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF :

Medical Officer of Health :

W. J. DOUGLAS COOPER, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Engineer, Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector :

H. J. DIMERY, A.I.A.S., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :

T. B. CHAFFE, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

Additional Public Health Inspectors :

C. W. R. FISHER, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

J. P. SMITH, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H

Pest Officer :

J. D. SHIPTON

Public Health Department Clerk :

Miss M. C. LOVELL

PART 1

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

SOCIAL CONDITIONS :

No important change has taken place in the nature of the chief trades carried out in the District. They are :

1. Agriculture and Allied Trades.
2. Braid and Loom Elastic and Smallwares.
3. Flour Mill.
4. Baking.
5. General Engineering.
6. Electrical Engineering.
7. Cloth Manufacturing.
8. Paper Pulping Mills.
9. Fibre Box Manufacturers.
10. Wood Turneries.

STATISTICS, 1959

(a) General Statistics :

Area of District	..	..	..	..	..	26,639 acres
Population (Estimated Mid-year)	..	..	..	..	..	17,270
Number of inhabited properties	..	..	..	..	..	6,011
Number of inhabitants per property	..	..	..	..	..	2.87
Rateable Value as at 31st December, 1959	..	..	..	..	..	£192,087
Sum represented by 1d. Rate	..	..	..	..	..	£767
Number of Council Houses	..	..	..	..	..	1,433
Number of requisitioned houses	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Percentage of Council Houses	..	..	..	..	..	23.84

Inhabited Properties :

Houses	..	..	..	..	..	5,558
Farms	..	..	..	..	..	169
Houses and Shops	..	..	..	..	..	168
Public Houses	..	..	..	..	..	47
Caravans	..	..	..	..	..	69
Total						<u>6,011</u>

Percentage served by Mains Water — 99%

Percentage served by Modern Sewers — 76%

(Includes Council Houses connected to small disposal plants)

Varying Populations of Dursley Rural District

1901	..	..	..	..	..	11,636
1911	..	.	..	..	..	12,233
1921	..	..	..	..	..	12,560
1938	..	..	..	..	..	14,600
1939	..	..	..	..	..	16,122
1946	..	..	..	..	..	16,220
1951	..	..	..	..	..	16,985
1952	..	..	..	..	..	17,020
1953	..	..	..	..	..	17,050
1954	..	..	..	..	..	17,070
1955	..	..	..	..	..	17,140
1956	..	..	..	..	..	17,240
1957	..	..	..	..	..	17,290
1958	..	..	..	..	..	17,150
1959	..	..	..	..	..	17,270

(b) Extracts from Vital Statistics :

Live Births :

			M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	..	..	142	130	272
Illegitimate	..	..	2	7	9
Total			144	137	281

Crude birth rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year population	..	..	16.27
Birth rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 estimated mid-year population			16.5
Comparability Factor for Births in this Area	..	..	1.06
Therefore corrected Birth Rate for this District is	..	..	17.24
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births	..	..	5.8%

Still Births :

			M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	..	..	1	3	4
Illegitimate	..	..	—	—	—
Total			1	3	4

Still Birth rate, per 1,000 Live and Still Births	..	..	..	14.10
Still Birth rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 Live and Still Births	..			21.0
Total Live and Still Births	..	..	..	285

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

	M.	F.	Total
	1	1	2

Causes of Death of Infants under 1 year

Sex	Age	Cause of Death	Where death occurred
Female	4 days	Atresia of Bowel	In Hospital
		Intestinal obstruction	
Male	1 week	Prematurity	In Hospital

Infant Mortality Rate

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year, England & Wales per 1,000 Live Births	22.2
Death Rate of Infants, Dursley R.D., per 1,000 Live Births	7.1
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate Live Births	7.3
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate Live Births	Nil

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate

		M	F.	Total
Legitimate	.. ..	1	1	2
Illegitimate	.. ..	—	—	—
	Total	1	1	2

Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total Live Births	7.1
Deaths under 4 weeks, England & Wales, per 1,000 total Live Births ..	15.8

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate

Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	3.5
---	-----

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

		M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	—	1	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total		—	1	1

Perinatal Mortality Rate

Still births and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 total live and still births	17.5
Still births and deaths under 1 week combined, England & Wales, per 1,000 total live and still births	34.2

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)	Nil
Number of deaths	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Nil

Deaths

187 deaths were registered in the Dursley Rural District during 1959. Of these 119 took place in the area and 68 were transferred to the District.	
Average age of all Male deaths in the District	67.60 years
Average age of all Female deaths in the District	75.50 years
Average age of all deaths in Dursley Rural District	71.86 years
Death rate for England & Wales per 1,000 estimated Mid-year Population	11.6
Crude death rate in Dursley Rural District, per 1,000 estimated Mid-year Population	10.82
Comparability Factor for Deaths in this Area	1.01
Therefore Corrected Death Rate for this District is	10.92
62 deaths out of the total occurred in Hospitals, i.e. approximately 33.1%.	

Deaths in Hospital

Gloucester Royal Hospital (Southgate Street)	..	14 cases
Berkeley Hospital	.. .. .	13 cases
Thornbury Hospital	.. .. .	5 cases
Gloucester Royal Hospital (Gt. Western Road)	..	4 cases
Southmead Hospital, Bristol	.. .. .	3 cases
Snowdon Road Hospital, Bristol	.. .. .	3 cases
Frenchay Hospital, Bristol	.. .. .	3 cases
Over Hospital	.. .. .	2 cases
Tetbury Hospital	.. .. .	2 cases
Standish Hospital	.. .. .	2 cases
Duncan House, Clifton, Bristol	.. .. .	1 case
City Maternity Hospital, Gloucester	.. .. .	1 case
Coney Hill Hospital, Gloucester	.. .. .	1 case
Weston-super-Mare Hospital	.. .. .	1 case
Ham Green Hospital, Nr. Bristol	.. .. .	1 case
The New Nursing Home, Stroud	.. .. .	1 case
Manor Park Hospital, Bristol	.. .. .	1 case
Lydbrook Hospital	.. .. .	1 case
Horton Road Hospital, Gloucester	.. .. .	1 case
Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton	.. .. .	1 case
Cossham Memorial Hospital, Bristol	.. .. .	1 case
Total		<u>62 cases</u>

LONGEVITY

Deaths in Age Groups

	M.	F.	Total
0 — 5 years	1	2	3
5 — 10 years	1	—	1
10 — 20 years	—	1	1
20 — 30 years	1	—	1
30 — 40 years	1	2	3
40 — 50 years	6	2	8
50 — 60 years	13	3	16
60 — 70 years	18	10	28
70 — 80 years	25	29	54
80 — 90 years	14	44	58
90 —100 years	6	8	14
Total	<u>86</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>187</u>

CAUSES OF DEATHS

Causes of Deaths	Under								Total
	1 yr.	1-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-	
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	..	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	3
Other forms of Tuberculosis	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm of stomach	..	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	3
Malignant neoplasm of lung and bronchus		—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Malignant neoplasm of breast	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	4
Malignant neoplasm of uterus	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms		—	—	—	2	7	1	5	15
Leukæmia, aleukæmia	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Diabetes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	—	—	—	—	3	9	27	39
Coronary disease, angina	..	—	—	—	3	8	4	12	27
Hypertension with heart disease	..	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	7
Other heart disease	—	—	—	—	3	9	25	37
Other circulatory disease	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	6
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Pneumonia	—	1	—	—	2	2	8	13
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	2	—	—	1	1	—	7	11
Motor vehicle accidents	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	3
All other accidents	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2
Suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Homicide and operations of war	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

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MONTHS OF THE YEAR IN WHICH DEATHS TOOK PLACE

Month	Deaths that occurred within the District	Deaths that occurred in hospital or while temporarily resident outside the District	Total
January ..	14	4	18
February ..	8	6	14
March ..	17	5	22
April ..	16	7	23
May ..	9	5	14
June ..	10	3	13
July ..	6	3	9
August ..	10	5	15
September ..	3	11	14
October ..	5	9	14
November ..	13	8	21
December ..	8	2	10
Total	119	68	187

Most Common Causes of Death

Heart Disease including Coronary Thrombosis	71 cases
Vascular Intracranial Lesions	39 cases
Cancer	26 cases
Pneumonia (including Broncho-pneumonia)	13 cases

Cancer Deaths

There were 26 deaths from Cancer during the year and the types of Cancer are listed below:

Cancer of Colon	5 cases
Cancer of Breast	4 cases
Cancer of Prostate	3 cases
Cancer of Stomach	3 cases
Cancer of Bronchus	3 cases
Cancer of Liver	2 cases
Cancer of Brain	2 cases
Cancer of Ovary	1 case
Cancer of Testicle	1 case
Cancer of Uterus	1 case
Unspecified Site	1 case
Total	26 cases

INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN PARISHES, 1959

Parish	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Pneumonia
Cam	50	4	3	—	—	1
Coaley	—	6	—	—	—	—
Dursley	35	5	2	—	—	1
Kingswood	4	—	3	—	—	—
North Nibley	5	—	—	—	—	—
Nympsfield	1	—	—	—	—	—
Slimbridge	36	2	—	—	—	—
Stinchcombe	1	—	—	—	—	—
Uley	—	3	—	1	—	—
Wotton-under-Edge	76	—	3	—	2	2
Total	208	20	11	1	2	4

INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS, 1959

Disease	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4-5 years	6-9 years	10-14 years	15-19 years	20-34 years	35-44 years	45-65 years	Over 65 years	Age Unknown	Total
Measles	3	14	28	23	77	58	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	208
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	1	3	13	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	20
Whooping Cough	2	—	1	3	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	4
Total														246

TUBERCULOSIS

During the year, one male and two females died as a result of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, their ages being between 55 and 65.

The number of cases remaining on the Register is 144 as compared with 150 in 1958.

Table showing Ages of New Cases and In-transfers, and Deaths

		New Cases and In-transfers				Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
Age		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1—5	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	.. ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	.. ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	.. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	.. ..	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	.. ..	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
65 and over	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table showing Cases who have been cured or who have left the Area

Cured				Left Area				Total
Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
2	2	—	1	2	4	—	—	11

Cases remaining on the Register

	M.	F.	Total
Pulmonary	67	41	108
Non-Pulmonary	17	19	36
	84	60	144

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Section 47

Removal of Persons in need of care and attention to suitable premises

No cases arose during the year calling for action under this Act.

ANTHRAX ORDER, 1938

Four notifications of suspected Anthrax were received under the provisions of the above Order but none were confirmed.

INTERNATIONAL VACCINATION CERTIFICATES

During the year, 61 International Vaccination Certificates were signed by General Practitioners in the District and were stamped and countersigned by me.

FOOD POISONING

I am pleased to report that during the year no cases of suspected Food Poisoning were notified.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

The following Immunisations and Vaccinations have been carried out within the District during 1959 by General Practitioners and Local Authority Doctors:

No. of children who completed a full course of Primary Immunisation

	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	Total
G.P. ..	221(205)	49(47)	6(4)	—	6(2)	2(2)	—	284(260)
L.A. ..	35	21	—	—	2	23	—	81

No. of children who received a re-inforcing dose

	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	Total
G.P. ..	—	—	—	2(—)	2(2)	21(10)	1(—)	26(12)
L.A. ..	—	—	—	3	59	548	29	639

N.B. Figures in Brackets denote Combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough injections included in totals.

VACCINATION — SMALLPOX

	Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	15 years & over	Total
Primary	160	6	—	6	9	181
Re-vaccination	—	—	1	1	2	4

VACCINATION — WHOOPING COUGH

	Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	Total
Whooping Cough Vaccination ..	44	4	4	—	52
Combined Diphtheria / Whooping Cough Prophylaxis (obtained by & given by General Practitioners)	205	47	8	12	272

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Once again I am indebted to Mr. A. W. Hughes of The Gazette Office for his co-operation in furnishing the following information:

Monthly rainfall during 1959

January	..	..	..	..	4.75 ins
February	..	..	..	..	.30 ins.
March	..	..	..	..	2.95 ins.
April	..	..	..	..	4.18 ins.
May	..	..	..	..	2.12 ins.
June	..	..	..	..	2.63 ins.
July	.	..	..	..	2.07 ins.
August	..	..	..	..	1.95 ins.
September	..	..	..	..	.20 ins.
October	..	..	..	..	2.60 ins.
November	..	..	..	..	3.40 ins.
December	..	..	..	..	6.72 ins.

Total rainfall during 1959: **33.87 ins.**

The wettest day was the 16th April when 1.42 ins. of rain fell.

Days with 0.1 ins. or more of rain: 165.

Days with 0.4 ins. or more of rain: 126.

The driest month of the year was September: 0.20 ins.

Average temperature during the Year

			Minimum	Maximum	Prevailing Wind
January	..	..	29.93	42.61	NW
February		..	33.25	46.75	E
March	..	..	38.45	53.61	SE
April	..	..	40.20	60.76	S
May	..	..	43.93	70.25	N
June	..	..	49.66	74.40	SW
July	..	..	52.03	76.40	SW
August	..	..	52.29	80.03	SW
September		..	46.10	80.66	E
October	..	..	45.90	65.25	S
November		..	38.96	49.56	S
December		..	38.93	46.96	SW

Prevailing Wind during the Year: SW.

The hottest day was the 7th September: 91 degrees F.

The coldest days were the 11th and 15th January: 20 degrees F.

PART II

REPORT OF THE ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR, AND CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my 13th Annual Report. Continued good progress in all aspects of Public Health Work has been maintained.

This year has seen the completion of a substantial part of the Comprehensive Water Scheme; the laying of pumping mains from Millend and Caswell to Breakheart; the laying of a supply main from Breakheart to Ashmead, the construction of the 500,000 gallon reservoir at Breakheart, and two Break Pressure Tanks at Old Hill Lane and Church Lane, Stinchcombe. Unfortunately, it will not be possible to make full use of the Breakheart Reservoir until the new pump is installed at Caswell and the new Pumping Station at Millend is completed.

The scheme for sewerage Uley was completed and connection of private properties are now being made. The Council agreed to make a limited contribution towards the cost of conversions of E.Cs. to W.Cs. and this should prove a most valuable inducement for owners of private properties to make the conversions.

The sewerage of Coaley is almost completed.

It will now be possible to dismantle eight small Sewage Disposal Plants previously serving Council Housing Estates.

Schemes for the clearance of slum properties have progressed according to programme. An ever increasing number of people are being re-housed from sub-standard properties. This has resulted in the Public Health Department taking action under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957, on an increased number of properties.

The Council are still erecting a considerable number of new houses, and houses developed by private enterprise tend to increase.

Refuse Collection and its disposal has given rise to some concern but I hope that such difficulties, particularly as to the disposal of refuse will be overcome in the near future.

The total number of visits carried out by Public Health Inspectors during the year was 4,286, and this gives some indication of the amount of work done.

I would, once again, like to thank my Staff for their loyalty and the conscientious manner in which they have carried out their duties.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council, I would extend my thanks for their help and consideration.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. J. DIMERY,

Council Offices,
Kingshill,
Dursley.

*Engineer, Surveyor and Chief
Public Health Inspector*

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

During the year two applications were received under the provisions of Section 3, Clean Air Act, 1956, in respect of new boiler installations. They were in respect of a Marine Type Oil Fired Cooker at a Cafe and two Oil Fired Ideal Eight Section Boilers to be installed in a new printing factory building. Both were approved but the provision of a smoke density recorder has been asked for in the second installation.

Apparatus for measuring Atmospheric Pollution

Our two sets of apparatus at the Council Offices, and Street Farm, Cam, have continued in use, and the results are as follows:

Total solids deposited expressed as tons per square mile

				Council Offices	Upper Cam
January	..	..	..	7.31	7.83
February	..	..	..	4.33	4.61
March	..	..	..	5.55	5.07
April	..	..	..	11.80	15.40
May	..	..	..	8.46	8.19
June	..	..	..	7.36	5.68
July	..	..	..	4.94	4.67
August	..	..	..	5.26	3.98
September	..	..	..	3.21	4.54
October	..	..	..	13.55	6.05
November	..	..	..	6.24	8.79
December	..	..	..	(Not available)	11.76

Milligrams of Sulphur Trioxide per day per 100 sq.cm. of Lead Peroxide

				Council Offices	Upper Cam
January	..	..	..	0.68	1.23
February	..	..	..	1.21	1.61
March	..	..	..	0.40	0.27
April	..	..	..	0.31	0.78
May	..	..	..	0.41	0.32
June	..	..	..	0.42	0.17
July	..	..	..	0.13	0.13
August	..	..	..	0.42	0.27
September	..	..	..	0.59	0.51
October	..	..	..	0.33	0.30
November	..	..	..	0.79	0.57
December	..	..	..	0.74	0.39

Mr. E. G. Whittle, the Public Analyst, has again given us a report for which I thank him and he has kindly consented to its publication in this report:-

“ The Street Farm and Council Office sites provided the following data which is compared with three previous years:

Average SO₃ mgm. per 100 sq.cm. per day

		1959	1958	1957	1956
Street Farm ..	..	0.55	0.49	0.81	0.85
Council Offices	..	0.53	0.75	0.93	1.07

Rainfall in inches for each year

		1959	1958	1957	1956
Street Farm ..	..	32.0	33.9	28.6	24.6 (11 months)
Council Offices	..	32.8	34.9	26.9	24.6

Deposits in tons per square mile

		1959	1958	1957	1956
Street Farm ..	..	86.6	71.7	59.8	73.2 (11 months)
Council Offices	..	78.0	81.7	59.0	94.0

(11 months)

The level of sulphur pollution has slightly worsened at Street Farm compared with 1958, but is very considerably better than levels in 1957 and 1956.

The level of sulphur pollution at the Council Offices continues to improve and was the lowest figure for the four years under review.

Despite the long dry summer the rainfall figure is about average with rainfall ranging from 0.14 inches in September up to 5.3 inches in December.

The deposits in tons per square mile are somewhat higher at both sites. Heavy depositions at Street Farm are noted for April (15.8 tons) and December (11.8 tons), whilst at the Council Offices there were 11.8 tons in April and 13.5 tons in October."

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

Many visits have been made to Food Premises during the year in connection with the above mentioned Regulations and it is evident from these visits that whilst premises can be provided with the necessary facilities such as sinks, washhand basins and hot water, they are not always kept in a satisfactory condition from a food hygiene point of view. One finds the type of premises which appear to work in a muddle where lack of method brings about untidyness and that in turn always results in uncleanness. It is so often true that the state of a food premises can be judged on its backyard. If one finds the area where the refuse and salvage is stored unsatisfactory one can usually expect to find other parts

of the premises unsatisfactory. Tidyness, in my opinion, is a first step to cleanliness and if we can only succeed in getting this point over matters will improve. More frequent visits too, if these were only possible, would help a great deal.

Smoking in Food Premises where there is open food is most undesirable but some food handlers do not readily understand this. It is also an offence and if heed is not taken of our warnings in this connection, cases of infringement will be reported with a view to the Council taking Statutory Action.

LICENSED PREMISES

Fewer visits have been made to Licensed Premises this year and matters which have been drawn to the attention of the Brewery Companies have, in some instances, taken much longer to be attended to than is necessary.

I hope therefore, to be able to pay more attention to Licensed Premises during 1960.

MILK SAMPLES (Bacteriological Examination)

A total of forty-four samples of milk have been taken during the year for Bacteriological Examination. Nine were of Pasteurised Milk and one of Sterilised Milk, the results of which were all satisfactory. Of the thirty-four samples of raw milk taken, only twenty proved to be satisfactory.

It was again found necessary to take up with the County Milk Production Officer the case of one producer whose milk sample results consistently failed to pass the Methylene Blue Test. We continued through the year to sample raw milks as they were received at a local Pasteurising Plant from the farms with a view to ensuring as far as possible that all milk is bacteriologically satisfactory before being pasteurised.

BOTTLE RINSES

We also took a series of Bottle Rinses during the year in order to check on the efficiency of a Bottle Washing Plant.

Two complaints were investigated of customers having received milk in a dirty bottle.

MILK SAMPLES (Biological Examination)

A total of twenty-nine results of Biological Milk Samples were received during the year. All were negative to the presence of Tubercle Bacilli but one result received at the end of the year was positive to the presence of Brucella Abortus.

Milk from the supply showing the presence of *Brucella Abortus* was being sent to a Pasteurising Plant, but in order to help the farmer concerned, individual samples were taken from each of the twenty cows in his herd. *Brucella Abortus* was isolated from four of the samples by direct culture or animal inoculation. The results were given to both the farmer and the Divisional Veterinary Surgeon in order that the problem may be suitably dealt with, and I have since been informed by the farmer that the animals affected will be sold as store cattle to be fattened for beef.

MISUSE OF MILK AND SOFT DRINK BOTTLES

Two instances of the misuse of Bottles came to our notice during the year; one concerned a milk bottle contaminated with oil and the other a soft drink bottle contaminated with paraffin.

Emphasis cannot be too heavily laid on the importance of not misusing such bottles and an advertisement drawing everyone's attention to it has again been placed in a local newspaper.

ICE-CREAM AND SIMILAR PRODUCTS (Bacteriological Examination)

The results of eleven samples of Ice-cream submitted for Bacteriological Examination were all satisfactory. The results of Cream Lolly samples however, were not so good; only ten out of fifteen results being satisfactory. Some difficulties from a bacteriological point of view were experienced in the satisfactory production of cream lollies in this District and it would seem that difficulties were also experienced in other districts as two of the unsatisfactory results were on samples produced outside the area.

A sample of Milk Powder used in the production of the foregoing products proved to be bacteriologically satisfactory.

The results of an Ice-lolly sample and two Ice-lollies with ice-cream centres were satisfactory.

ICE-LOLLIES (Chemical Examination)

Two samples of Ice-lolly were submitted for Chemical Examination and the result in each case showed that no undue metallic contamination was present.

REGISTRATION OF PREMISES FOR THE SALE OF ICE-CREAM

The total number of premises registered at the end of the year was 73; eleven new applications having been made during the year which included four from Licensed Premises. One application in respect of Licensed Premises was refused.

BREAD

A complaint of what appeared to be paper fibre in a sliced and wrapped loaf was found on investigation to be caused as the result of a fault in a bread slicing and wrapping machine in a modern bakery situated outside this District.

FROZEN EGG

In June of this year our advice was sought in connection with tinned English frozen eggs. Seven 28 lbs. tins were involved; the tins being rusted, the egg of a pale colour and the odour offensive.

A sample result showed a very heavy mixed growth of organisms but no pathogens were isolated.

The tins were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed.

FOOD INSPECTION

During the year the following other Foodstuffs were inspected and voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption:

Tinned Meat	67 tins	Approximately 243 lbs.
Tinned Fish	13 tins	Approximately 6 lbs.
Tinned Fruit	114 tins	Approximately 157 lbs.
Tinned Vegetables ..	77 tins	Approximately 75 lbs.
Tinned Milk	19 tins	Equivalent to approximately 29 pints.
Miscellaneous Tinned Foods, Packets, Jars and Bottles	120	Approximately 297 lbs.
Meat: Imported Lambs' Livers	70 lbs.	Deterioration.
Fish: Cod	28 lbs.	Decomposition.

DISCOLOURATION OF MEAT

During the year we were informed by a Wotton-under-Edge butcher that meat delivered by him to a household outside our area had become covered with a thick red discolouration after delivery, and this had happened on more than one occasion.

A specimen of the meat so affected (beef cheek) was submitted for examination and the Laboratory Report read as follows:

“A profuse growth of red pigmented chromobacterium was obtained from the specimen.”

This infection, we were informed, could have been air-borne, from vegetation, or from the soil. Liaison with the Public Health Department of our adjoining Authority has taken place but to date the trouble has not recurred and it has not been possible to establish the precise cause.

IMPORTED LAMBS' LIVER

As a result of a complaint, a quantity of Lambs' Liver was inspected at three shops. The liver was found to be affected with tyrosin crystals, the formation of which had been caused by the deterioration of the liver through long storage in cold store. Twenty-seven and a half pounds were voluntarily surrendered.

MEAT INSPECTION

Two Private Slaughterhouses have remained licensed during the year but the number of animals slaughtered at them has diminished.

The following table gives the number of animals slaughtered and the percentage affected with disease:

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed ..	11	—	1	335	—	—
Number inspected ..	11	—	1	335	—	—
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	2	—	—	1	—	—
Percentage of the number affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci ..	18.1%	—	—	.29%	—	—
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of Number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned ..	1	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrig- eration	1	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with Cysticercosis ..	9.1%	—	—	—	—	—

The carcase affected with *Cysticercus Bovis* was submitted to treatment by refrigeration at Cheltenham and our Colleague in that Area was informed.

All condemned meat and foodstuffs are disposed of at our controlled Refuse Tip.

REFUSE COLLECTION

The same Refuse Vehicles as mentioned in my last Annual Report have continued in use and the same number of men have been employed. Overtime is being worked and a report has been made to the Council with a view to them considering the possibility of fitting a Power Press to one or both of our Fore and Aft Tip Vehicles.

The following table shows the details of the refuse bins issued during the year under the Council's Hire Scheme:

Initial	Replacement	Exchanges	Returned
181	45	4	38

The annual hire charge continued at 7/6d., and at the end of the year 1,825 bins were on hire.

Owing to the difficult legal interpretation of what constitutes "Trade Refuse" and in order to be consistent with regard to charges made for the collection of Trade Refuse this question was discussed by the Council. They decided as a result that all Trade Premises should have one Refuse Bin picked up at each collection free of charge, to be recognised as Domestic Refuse, and that all other refuse picked up from Trade Premises would be charged for at the rate of 6d. per bin per week.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Controlled refuse tipping continued during the year at our original Woodend Lane site and in addition, the farmer gave us permission to continue our tipping into a part of his adjacent field. Before commencing the tipping however, a large scraper was employed to take off all the top soil from the area to be tipped upon and it has been stockpiled in readiness to be put back as the finished surface as the tipping progresses. In addition to the stripping of the top soil, certain site works had to be undertaken such as, the piping of a stream with large concrete tubes, the piping of a ditch with smaller concrete tubes, the building of a large inspection chamber, the moving of a drinking trough, and the erection of a cattle proof fence and gate.

During the good summer weather we were able to have a considerable quantity of sludge moved from the Coaley Outfall Works to our Woodend Lane Tip and it is considered that this, together with some soil, will make a good finished surface to an area on which we have already tipped.

The search for suitable Refuse Tips has continued during the year, and early in the year, I drew the Council's attention to the fact that a small farm was being sold in the Nibley Green area. My earnest hope was that the Council would buy the farm and then earmark the low lying ten acres or so for refuse tipping, but use only an acre or two at a time; this would have improved the low lying land progressively and would have only necessitated keeping, at the most, two acres from being used for farming purposes at any one time. Our tipping problem would then have been over and the remainder of the farm could have either been let or re-sold. To my disappointment the scheme did not come to fruition, but I still contend that a future scheme of this sort could well save the Council considerable worry about future tipping sites.

Early in 1960, Mr. J. S. Eley, one of the Members of our Council, made it clear that he would be willing to help the Council in this matter by permitting the Council to tip on some of his land. This is a very kind offer indeed and one for which, I am sure, the Council are more than grateful.

SALVAGE

The quantity and value of the Salvage materials collected during the year is shown in the following table.

	Quantity				Value		
	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£.	s.	d.
Waste Paper ..	66	15	2	0	441	8	5
Scrap Iron ..	4	16	2	0	24	2	6
Mixed Metals ..		3	2	18	10	17	6
Rags		18	1	8	13	15	0

The price of Waste Paper rose on the 1st February, 1959, from £5 10s. 0d. to £6 15s. 0d. per ton.

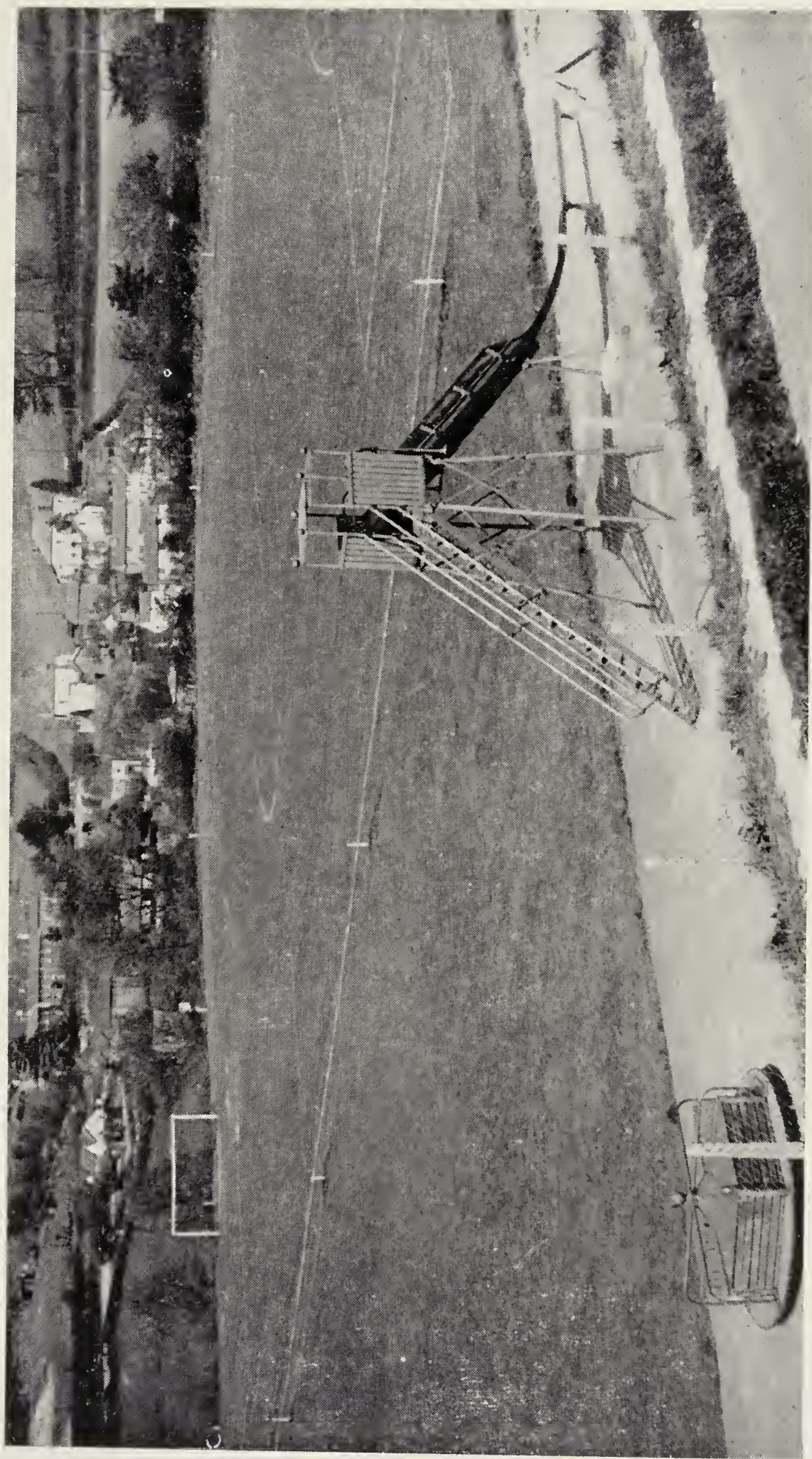
A special collection of Waste Paper is made from the larger business premises but all other Salvage is picked up at the same time as the refuse is collected.

HOUSING

Number of Post War Dwellings completed by Council, including Conversions	882
Number of Post War Dwellings completed by Private Enterprise ..	367
Total	1,249
Number of Dwellings completed by the Council during the year ..	41
Number of Dwellings completed by Private Enterprise during the year	55
Total	96

Conversions :

7 properties at Golden Lane, Kingswood, were purchased by the Council for the purposes of modernising and improving. A scheme was prepared and approved for 6 units of accommodation and work commenced, 2 of which have been completed.



This photograph is an example of what can be accomplished by controlled refuse tipping. This football pitch and small playing field had been a refuse tip some six years ago. The field is situated at Synwell, Wotton-under-Edge, and the tipping was done in the middle of a built-up area.

HOUSING ACTS—IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Discretionary Grants :

Total number of Applications received	..	..	..	300
Disapproved	..	..	..	6
Cancelled or Withdrawn	..	..	..	27
Schemes completed	..	..	..	249
Schemes in course of construction	..	..	..	18

It is interesting to note that of the 247 schemes approved, 28 were for properties in the category of Class 5.

Standard Grants :

Total number of Applications approved	..	..	..	18
Withdrawn	..	..	..	1
Schemes completed	..	..	..	5

HOUSING

Between September, 1955, and the end of this year we had initiated action under the provisions of the Housing Acts 1936 and 1957 in respect of 193 houses. During this year, 44 have been dealt with, 12 in two Clearance Areas and the remainder as Individual Unfit Houses.

The two Clearance Areas declared were at Barr's Lane, North Nibley, and Silver Street, Synwell, Wotton-under-Edge. Concern was expressed in Council at the number of houses which were being dealt with in North Nibley and the fact that no houses were being built in that Parish. As a result of this, the Council decided to make a Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of houses included in the Barr's Lane Clearance Area together with two adjacent houses and land, with a view to redevelopment of the area. No objections were received.

In the case of the Silver Street Clearance Area at Wotton-under-Edge, an objection was received from the owner who is himself a builder. He in fact, submitted plans and specifications of a scheme he was prepared to carry out to the houses. At the Enquiry however, it was argued on behalf of the Council that even if the scheme, as drawn up, was carried out the houses would not be made fit in every respect for human habitation. Confirmation of the Order was later made by the Ministry.

As our work in connection with unfit properties continues, it is evident that many properties are still being allowed by their owners to deteriorate and it is obvious that we shall have a continuing problem in this connection.

We still find it necessary and, indeed, an advantage to be able to deal with essential repairs at some houses by means of Section 92 of the Public Health Act, 1936. (Statutory Nuisances).

HOUSING MANAGEMENT

I am once again indebted to the Housing Manager for his report which follows, and I take this opportunity to thank him both for his report, and the co-operation he has given to the Department during the year.

“During the year 1959, 84 families were re-housed by the Council in accordance with the Council’s House-letting policy. This figure exceeds the corresponding figure for 1957 by 19 and for 1958 by 3. In the twelve months under review, 39 new dwellings were made available for letting as compared with 13 in 1957 and 33 in 1958.

The number of applicants on the Waiting List at the end of the year was 190, which is a reduction of approximately 87 from last year.

Analysis of Lettings, 1959

1. Families re-housed from Unfit Houses :-		
(a) Clearance Areas	2	
(b) Individual Representation	22	
	<hr/>	24
2. Families re-housed as a result of their landlords having obtained Court Orders for possession		5
3. Medical Cases :-		
(i) Tuberculosis	2	
(ii) Parkinson’s Disease (1); Asthma (1)	2	
	<hr/>	4
4. General Needs:-		51
		<hr/>
	Total	84
		<hr/>
5. The 39 new Dwellings comprised :-		
10 3-Bedroom Houses.		
9 2-Bedroom Houses.		
8 2-Bedroom Flats.		
8 1-Bedroom Flats. (For Aged Persons).		
3 2-Bedroom Bungalows. (Mainly for Aged Persons).		
1 1-Bedroom Bungalow. (Mainly for Aged Persons).		
6. To correct overcrowding and under-occupation of dwellings, 4 Exchanges and 16 Transfers were arranged.		
7. 45 existing Tenants terminated their tenancies and it is significant that a considerable proportion of this number left to take up occupancy of dwellings built for them by private enterprise. In estimating the Council’s building requirements in the future this is a factor which must be borne in mind. The extent of private enterprise building in the District is on the increase.		

The continuance of the policy of creating a better balance of sizes and types of accommodation is a pleasing feature of housing policy in the District. The proportion of 1-Bedroom and 2-Bedroom dwellings to 3-Bedroom dwellings has been increased in the Parishes of Dursley and Wotton-under-Edge, as well as in the Parish of Cam at the Woodfield Estate.

Programmes of Improvement and Conversion are about to be carried out in the Pre-War Housing Estates at Highfields, Upper and Lower Poole Roads, Dursley, and Lampern View, Uley, and similar programmes in other Pre-War Estates are envisaged. Bathrooms and hot water systems are being installed and a number of houses are being converted from 3-Bedroom to 2-Bedroom Dwellings."

RENT ACT, 1957

Three applications were received during the year for Certificates of Disrepair under the above Act.

In each case the Council decided to issue a Certificate but in two of the three cases the owner gave an Undertaking to carry out the repairs when the formal Notice of Intention to issue a Certificate of Disrepair was served.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There is only one Licensed Caravan Site in the Area; this is in the Slimbridge Parish and throughout most of the year two Caravans only stood on the site.

All the other Caravans are controlled by individual annual Licences which terminate at the 31st December. At the end of the year, there were 58 licensed Caravans in the Area; 20 of these were stationed on a site at The Quarry, Cam; 2 at a site near 86 Woodmancote, Dursley, and 7 on a site near 8 Hill Road, Dursley; the others were stationed on isolated sites throughout the District. 65 applications for Licences were received and none were refused; of the applications received, 19 were new applications.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928

Many visits have been made during the year to Petroleum Installations and at the end of the year 56 such installations were licensed. Of this total, one Licence was for a new installation at Slimbridge.

At the beginning of the year, all persons with petrol pumps which did not measure up to the provisions of the Model Code issued by the Home Office were informed and in particular were asked to ensure that each electric pump was provided with either a Pre-set or a Limiting Device by the 1st January, 1960. Later in the year, we were informed that it would not be practicable for all the necessary fittings to be supplied in time and I therefore propose to report to the Council those who have not brought their pumps up to standard by the 1st June, 1960.

It would appear that at the present time some concern is being expressed with regard to the way in which paraffin, white spirits, creosote and similar products are stored, as we were asked to make a report to the County Council on this matter in October at quite short notice.

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS ON SAMPLES OF WATER TAKEN FROM THE COUNCIL'S SOURCES OF SUPPLY

PARTS PER MILLION.		(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
Date	..	6-10-59	6-10-59	14-10-59	14-10-59	14-10-59	2-12-59	2-12-59	2-12-59
Total Dissolved Solids	..	340	315	312	425	376	342	440	282
Loss on Ignition	..	35	16	10	27	10	14	25	17
Mineral Matter	..	305	299	302	398	366	328	415	265
Total hardness	..	288	266	248	334	294	282	350	234
(a) Permanent	..	59	58	44	60	46	56	113	54
(b) Temporary	..	229	208	204	274	248	226	237	170
Chlorine (as Chloride)	..	16	12	11	15	15	16	19	15
Free Ammonia	..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	..	0.01	0.01	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.01
Nitrate Nitrogen	..	0.79	0.96	0.50	0.86	0.33	0.56	1.58	1.49
Nitrite Nitrogen	..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	v. slight trace
Residual Chlorine	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Metals	..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

32	pH	..	7.2	7.4	7.3	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.6	7.2
BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION										
	Plate Count.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Yeastral agar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	48 hrs. 37°C. aerobically	6	40	4	1	0	17	50	1800	1800+
	72 hrs. 22°C.	45	38	76	58	6	70	125	13500	1800+
	Probable number of coliform bacilli	..	..	..	(pin points+)	..	..	..	..	..
	MacConkey 2 days, 37°C.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Bact. coli (type 1)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Intermediate I and II isolated	Intermediate I isolated	Faecal I isolated	0	0	110	900	1800+	1800+
		..	..	..	..	..	..	6†	Polluted	Polluted
		..	..	..	..	..	..	E. coli type I & intermediate type	Intermediate type I and a	Intermediate type I and a
		..	..	..	..	..	..	Irregular	Irregular	Irregular
		..	..	..	..	..	..	I isolated	I isolated	I isolated
		..	..	..	..	..	..	Faecal type	Faecal type	Faecal type
		..	..	..	..	..	..	I not identified.	I not identified.	I not identified.

(a) Bottom Spring, Tyley Bottom, Wotton-under-Edge; (b) Top Spring, Tyley Bottom, Wotton-under-Edge; (c) Frogend Spring, Coombe Pumping Station, Wotton-under-Edge; (d) Old Pumping Station, Dursley; (e) Caswell Pumping Station, Dursley; (f) Millend Spring, North Nibley; (g) Hamblin Brake Spring, Wotton-under-Edge; (h) Greenhay Spring, Wotton-under-Edge.

WATER SUPPLY UNDERTAKING

99% of the Area has a piped Water Supply.

Nature of the water—hard (non-plumbo solvent).

Treatment of all supplies—chlorination.

Average Consumption—daily—for all purposes:

Domestic	..	..	..	..	633,930 gallons
Metered (Trade and Agriculture)				..	183,153 gallons
				Total	<u>817,083 gallons</u>

Analysis of Water Supplies

In addition to routine samples from the Council's sources of supply, 18 samples of private supplies have been taken and the appropriate action taken, or advice given, where unsatisfactory results have been received.

I am indebted to The Bristol Waterworks Company, West Gloucestershire Division, for letting me have a copy of their Analyst's Report on water which is supplied to this District from the Alderley Pumping Station:

Date of Sample: 5th January, 1959.

Chemical Results expressed in parts per million

Appearance: Bright with a few particles.

Turbidity: less than 3.

Colour : Nil.

Odour: faint chlorinous.

pH : 7.2.

Free Carbon Dioxide: 30.

Electric Conductivity: 600.

Alkalinity as CaCO_3 : 270.

Hardness: Total: 345.

Carbonate : 270.

Non-carbonate: 75.

Nitrate Nitrogen: 2.8.

Nitrite Nitrogen: Absent.

Ammoniacal Nitrogen: 0.000.

Oxygen absorbed: 0.30.

Albuminoid Nitrogen : 0.000.

Residual chlorine: 0.08.

Metals: Iron, Zinc, Copper. Lead: Absent.

Fluoride (F): 0.1.

Bacteriological Results

Number of Colonies developing on Agar per ml. in	1 day at 37°C.	2 days at 37°C.	3 days at 20°C.
	0	0	0

				Absent from	Probable Number
Presumptive Coli-Aerogenes Reaction	..			100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli (Type I)	..	..	..	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction	..	..	..	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.

I am also indebted to Mr. Goodridge of the Gloucester Corporation for a copy of the chemical analysis of water which is supplied to this District in bulk:

Date of Sample: 11th August, 1959.

Chemical Results expressed in parts per million

Appearance : Slight opalescent, some ferruginous deposit.

Colour: Slight, yellow.

Odour: None.

pH: 7.83.

Total Solid Residue (dried at 180°C.): 411.

Hardness as CaCO_3 : Permanent: 73.

Temporary: 118. Total: 191.

Calcium as CaCO_3 : 146.

Magnesium as CaCO_3 : 45.

Chlorine in chlorides as Cl: 89.

Oxygen absorbed, 3 hrs. at 37°C.: 1.37.

Nitrite Nitrogen: 0.001.

Nitrate Nitrogen : 2.35.

Ammoniacal Nitrogen : 0.04.

Albuminoid Nitrogen: 0.11.

Opacity (Turbidity plus Colour): 12.1.

Silica : 4.5.

Phosphate as PO₄: 0.049.

Total Iron as Fe.: 0.26.

Residual Chlorine: 0.03.

Potassium as K.: 4.65.

Sodium as Na: 29.5.

The above sample was ex the Tewkesbury supply. This sample showed a quite considerable "pick-up" of iron, and the opacity of the sample was also somewhat higher than can be considered desirable. The result of the

Bacteriological Examination is as follows :

Number of colonies per 1 ml. on Agar at 37°C. in 48 hours	..	3
Presumptive Coliform Organisms absent in	.. ..	100 ml.
Faecal Coli. absent in	.. ..	100 ml.

EMPTYING OF SEPTIC TANKS

The Council continued to employ the same Contractors during the year for the emptying of Septic Tanks. A free service has continued to be given to private dwellings but a charge has been made for business premises. In some cases, as for instance at farms, a septic tank may serve both domestic and business premises, in these instances a part charge is made.

The following table shows the work undertaken and the cost involved:

					Number of Emptyings	£	s.	d.
Private Dwellings	..	..	..	..	147	358	3	9
Tanks serving Council Houses	..	..			38	157	12	6
Tanks serving premises from which the cost is partly or completely recovered	..				17	35	1	3
Ditches cleansed	..	..	..	..	2	16	10	0
					<hr/> 204	<hr/> £567	<hr/> 7	<hr/> 6

Towards the end of the year a little difficulty arose with regard to the approach road to our Wotton-under-Edge Sewage Works which necessitated our Contractors' vehicle having to travel long journeys to Coaley Junction Outfall Works.

With the progress of new connections being made to the sewers at both Uley and Coaley some of the septic tanks will no longer be used.

SMALL SEWAGE DISPOSAL PLANTS

Weekly visits for the purpose of maintenance have been made to the small Sewage Disposal Plants serving Council House Estates and they have proved essential.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The same number of Public Conveniences as mentioned in my last year's Report have continued in use. The old Convenience Block at The Chipping, Wotton-under-Edge, however, has been pulled down and is now being replaced by a modern building.

The Council's caretakers have maintained these buildings satisfactorily during the year by daily cleaning.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	Inspections	Treatments
Private Premises (including Council Houses) ..	705	154
Business Premises	217	87
Farms	143	48
Council Properties (excluding Council Houses) ..	28	10
Block Control Treatments		12

A free service has continued to be given for domestic premises but a charge has been made for business premises.

Maintenance Treatment Agreements are entered into with Business Firms and at the end of the year 47 such Agreements were in existence, the total value of which was £330. 18 of these Agreements were in respect of farm premises.

The Council discussed quite fully in recent months the question of the Agreements with Farmers and decided that they would run a system whereby the Agreements would be on a three-yearly basis and the charge made each year would diminish. Three categories of farms according to the work involved, were established, and the charges agreed were as follows:

	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
First Year	£9	£8	£7
Second Year	£7	£6	£5
Third Year	£6	£5	£4

Following the completion of the three-year period the charge will be determined by the amount of work to be involved, based upon the experience obtained during the three years.

I should like to relate, as a matter of interest, our experience at one farm during the year. The death of two cats coincided with a treatment against rats being carried out by our Rodent Officer, Mr. Shipton. Although he was not directly accused, the inference was that the cats had been poisoned, so we took one of the cats to a local Veterinary Surgeon for Post Mortem. His report read as follows: "Death was definitely not due to Warfarin. Post Mortem lesions suggest that death was probably due to an acute attack of Cat Flu."

In March, a Test Bait was made on the Wotton-under-Edge, Dursley and Cam systems of sewers. Infestations were found to exist at Potters Pond, Wotton-under-Edge; Silver Street, Dursley, Fort Lane, Dursley, and Draycott, Cam. The necessary treatment was then carried out at all these points and at another point in Potters Pond which was previously infested. Sausage rusk and zinc phosphide was the bait and poison used.

COMPLAINTS

This year the number of Complaints received and dealt with by the Public Health Department was 462.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937—1959

Many visits have been made in connection with the Means of Escape in Case of Fire from Factories. This work in some instances has been delayed on account of our having to await the submission of plans by the firms concerned, particularly with our large Factories it is essential to have such plans.

During the year we sought the co-operation of the Chief Officer of the Gloucestershire Fire Service Headquarters at Cheltenham in connection with our visits to Factories, and this co-operation was readily given. At all our visits to Factories since, in connection with Means of Escape, we have been accompanied by the Fire Prevention Officer, Mr. Brown, or one of his Assistants, and I take this opportunity to thank them for all their co-operation and for the manner in which they have given it.

Further work in connection with our duties under the above mentioned Acts was carried out during the year and the following forms refers to this work.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937—1959

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	No. of Premises	Number of Inspections	Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(a) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	—	—	—
(b) Factories not included in (a) in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	58	61	2	—
(c) Other Premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' premises) ..	5	—	—	—
TOTAL	68	61	2	—

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found	Number of cases in which defects were found			No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
		Reme- died	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	1	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate temperature (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	3	3	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers) ..	4	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	8	5	—	—	—

Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel, Making, etc.	2	—	—	—	—	—
Carding, etc. of Buttons, etc.	4	—	—	—	—	—
Textile Weaving	21	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	27	—	—	—	—	—

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' VISITS AND NOTICES SERVED DURING 1959

General Sanitation

No. of inspections or visits

Water Samples	..	..	..	..	..	..	79
Water Supply	..	..	..	..	..	..	55
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	397
Deep Litter, Stables and Piggeries	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Guest Houses, Hostels and Hotels	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Moveable Dwellings	..	..	..	..	..	..	140
Factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	61
Workplaces	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Outworkers	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Public Conveniences	..	..	..	..	..	..	73
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Refuse Collection and Salvage	..	..	..	..	..	..	491
Refuse Disposal	..	..	..	..	..	..	244
Rats and Mice	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Atmospheric Pollution	..	..	..	..	..	..	85
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	110
Sewage Disposal	..	..	..	..	..	..	444
Means of Escape in Case of Fire	..	..	..	..	..	..	19
Pet Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Petrol	..	..	..	..	..	..	192
Mortuary	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Insect Infestations	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Visits to Court and Meetings	..	..	..	..	..	..	53

HOUSING

Under Public Health Act

No. of Houses inspected	..	..	..	..	87
Visits paid to above Houses	..	..	..	..	297

Under Housing Act

No. of Houses inspected	..	..	..	..	105
Visits paid to above Houses	..	..	..	..	337

Filthy and Verminous Premises

No. of Houses inspected	..	..	..	..	10
Visits paid to above Houses	..	..	..	..	11

Visits under the Rent Act, 1957	..	..	..	..	..	33
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	..	..	..	..	..	158

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Inquiries in cases of Infectious Disease	..	..	..	..	10
Visits re Disinfection	..	..	..	..	11
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	..	..	..	..	9

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Inspection of Meat

Visits to Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	71
Visits to Shops and Stalls	..	..	..	..	8
Visits to other Premises	..	..	..	..	2

Visits to

Butchers	..	..	..	..	46
Fishmonger and Poulterers	..	..	..	..	19
Grocers	..	..	..	..	115
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	..	..	..	..	24
Dairies and Milkshops	..	..	..	..	37
Ice-cream Premises	..	..	..	..	55
Food Preparing Premises	..	..	..	..	2
Confectioners and Cakeshops	..	..	..	..	24
Restaurants and Cafes	..	..	..	..	42
Mobile Shops, Snack Bars and Food Vans	..	..	..	..	13
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	48
Miscellaneous Food Visits	..	..	..	..	25
Condemnation of Foodstuffs	..	..	..	..	32

Visits in connection with Sampling

Milk—Bacteriological Examination	..	..	..	..	46
Milk—Biological Examination	..	..	..	..	5
Milk—Brucella Abortus	..	..	..	..	2
Milk—Bottle Rinses	..	..	..	..	3
Ice-cream	..	..	..	..	36

NOTICES SERVED

No. of Informal Notices served	..	..	..	..	289
No. of Informal Notices complied with	..	..	..	..	137
No. of Statutory Notices served	..	..	..	..	5
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	..	..	..	..	1

Stroud Rural District Council

Chairman:

G. W. POWELL, Esq., J.P.

Vice-Chairman:

F. W. STEVENS, Esq.

Clerk of the Council:

Lt. Col. G. E. G. GADSDEN, D.S.O., M.A.

Councillors:

L. J. Arrowsmith, Esq., J.P.	H. W. King, Esq.
Miss M. P. Barron	Lt. Col. E. G. Lutyens-Humfrey
W. Brown, Esq.	Dr. G. M. L. Macrae
Mrs. W. B. Brown	W. H. Maddocks, Esq.
T. E. Burrell, Esq.	R. B. Martin, Esq.
F. Chapman, Esq.	Brig. L. W. H. Mathias, D.S.O.
Mrs. V. M. E. Chapple	F. H. Moore, Esq.
H. G. S. Clarke, Esq.	G. E. Pearce, Esq., M.B.E.
W. Duncan-Young, Esq.	G. W. Powell, Esq., J.P.
W. England, Esq.	Lt. Col. E. A. Sharpin
C. D. Fletcher, Esq.	J. H. Shotter, Esq.
W. S. C. Green, Esq.	Miss E. Sibly
J. V. Gwilliam, Esq.	G. Sollars, Esq.
F. W. Harper, Esq.	F. W. Stevens, Esq.
E. Horsfall, Esq.	P. R. Symonds, Esq.
Mrs. E. M. Howell	J. W. Teed, Esq.
W. T. Ireland, Esq.	Mrs. K. A. Tincker
A. E. Jefferies, Esq.	C. H. Tully, Esq.
H. J. Keene, Esq.	F. G. Tyler, Esq.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

W. J. DOUGLAS COOPER, M.B., B.C.H., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Chief Health Inspector:

H. F. CRITCHLEY, M.INST.P.H.E., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Health Inspectors:

C. G. HOWELL, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

F. K. HARROP, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I.

H. R. ANGUS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Building Inspectors:

W. H. RYAN, C. M. PARTRIDGE

Engineering Assistant:

M. E. FLETCHER

Pests Officer:

S. JONES

Clerk/Shorthand Typists

Mrs. B. READER, Miss H. COULDREY, Miss J. REEVES

PART I

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)	..	..	..	..	..	35,038
Population (1951 Census)	..	..	..	..	..	26,336
Population (Registrar General 1959)	..	..	..	..	..	27,240
Number of inhabited houses	..	..	..	..	..	9,063
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	£291,757/10/0
Product of 1d. Rate	..	..	..	..	..	£1.175

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

			M.	F.	Total
			208	200	408
Legitimate	..	..	200	191	391
Illegitimate	..	..	8	9	17
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 mid year Home Population	..	..			14.98
Birth Rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 Home Population	..	..			16.5
Comparability Factor for Births	..	..	..	..	1.07
Corrected Birth Rate for Stroud R.D.	..	..	..	..	16.02
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	..	..	..	..	4.1%

Still Births

			M.	F.	Total
			3	6	9
Legitimate	..	..	3	6	9
Illegitimate	..	..	—	—	—
Total Live and Still Births	..	..	..	..	417
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births)	..	..			22.1
Still Births, England and Wales, per 1,000 total Live and Still Births	..	..			21.0

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

			M.	F.	Total
			3	1	4
Legitimate	..	..	3	1	4
Illegitimate	..	..	—	—	—

Causes of Death of Infants under 1 year of age

Male	3 hours	White Asphyxia	At home
Female	1 hour	Prematurity (28 weeks)	Gloucester City Maternity Hospital
Male	1 week	Prematurity of Atelectasis	Gloucester City Maternity Hospital
Male	3 months	Fibrocystic Disease	Gloucester Royal Hospital

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

			M.	F.	Total
			2	1	3
Legitimate	..	..	2	1	3
Illegitimate	..	..	—	—	—

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

			M.	F.	Total
			1	1	2
Legitimate	..	..	1	1	2
Illegitimate	..	..	—	—	—

Infant Mortality Rates

Total Infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	..	..	..	..	9.8
Legitimate Infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..			10.2
Illegitimate Infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..			Nil
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year in England and Wales per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	22.2
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	..	..	..	..	7.3
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) England and Wales	..	..	..	..	15.8
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	..	..	..	..	26.3
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) England and Wales	..	..			34.2

Maternal Mortality (including Abortion)

Number of Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.4

TOTAL DEATHS IN STROUD RURAL DISTRICT 333

Male Deaths			Female Deaths		
In District	=	96	In District	=	102
Transferable	=	73	Transferable	=	62
		<u>169</u>			<u>164</u>

Average Age of all Male Deaths in District	..	..	..	69.16 years
Average Age of all Female Deaths in District	..	..	..	72.23 years
Average Age of all Deaths in Stroud Rural District	..	..		70.67 years
Death Rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 Home Population	..			11.6
Crude Death Rate for Stroud Rural District per 1,000 estimated mid-year population	..	..	..	12.22
Comparability Factor for Deaths	..	..	..	0.90
Therefore Corrected Death Rate	..	..	..	10.99

CAUSES OF DEATHS

		Under								Total
		1 yr.	1-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-	
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3
Other forms of Tuberculosis	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	.. ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm of stomach	..	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	4	8
Malignant neoplasm of lung and bronchus		—	—	—	—	—	12	4	2	18
Malignant neoplasm of breast	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	2	9
Malignant neoplasm of uterus	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms		—	—	—	—	—	4	7	9	20
Leukæmia, aleukæmia	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Diabetes	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	—	—	1	—	1	6	11	20	39
Coronary disease, angina	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	9	16	18	43
Hypertension with heart disease	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	4	13
Other heart disease	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	11	14	53	78
Other circulatory disease	.. ..	—	—	—	—	1	1	6	1	9
Influenza	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	3	6	5	14
Pneumonia	.. ..	—	1	—	—	—	5	6	11	23
Bronchitis	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	6
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	.. ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	6	7
Hyperplasia of prostate	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	.. ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital malformations	.. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	3	—	—	—	—	3	2	4	12
Motor vehicle accidents	.. ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
All other accidents	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	7
Suicide	.. ..	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	5
Homicide and operations of war	..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
										Total 333

MOST COMMON CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1959

(i) Heart Disease including Coronary Artery Disease	134 cases
(ii) Cancer	58 cases
(iii) Vascular Intracranial Lesions	39 cases
(iv) Pneumonia	23 cases
(v) Influenza	14 cases

CANCER DEATHS

Cancer of Lung	18 cases
Cancer of Breast	9 cases
Cancer of Pancreas	2 cases
Cancer of Ovary	3 cases
Cancer of Stomach	8 cases
Cancer of Prostate	3 cases
Cancer of Tonsil	1 case
Cancer of Colon	4 cases
Cancer of Rectum	3 cases
Cancer of Oesophagus	1 case
Cancer of Uterus	3 cases
Cancer of Larynx	1 case
Cancer of Bladder	1 case
Cancer of Gland	1 case
Total	58 cases

The most common sites of Cancer are firstly the lung with 18 cases and then breast and stomach with 9 and 8 respectively.

DEATHS IN HOSPITALS

Stroud General Hospital	36 cases
Westbury Hall	2 cases
Salterley Grange, Leckhampton	4 cases
Gloucester Royal Hospital (Great Western Road)	13 cases
Gloucester City Maternity Hospital	2 cases
Gloucester Royal Hospital (Southgate Street)	28 cases
Cashes Green Hospital	3 cases
St. Paul's Nursing Home, Gloucester	2 cases
Standish Chest Hospital	9 cases
Barnwood House	2 cases
Cheltenham General Hospital	3 cases
Wells and District Hospital	1 case
Horton Road, Hospital, Gloucester	6 cases
Tetbury and District Hospital	3 cases
St. Lawrence Hospital, Chepstow	1 case
Over Hospital, Highnam	2 cases
Delancey Hospital, Cheltenham	1 case
Stroud Maternity Hospital	1 case
New Nursing Home, Cainscross Road, Stroud	1 case
Cirencester Memorial Hospital	1 case
Lydney Hospital	1 case
Total	122 cases

122 out of 333 deaths occurred in hospitals or nursing homes outside the district 36%

There were two deaths in ambulances proceeding with patients to hospital.

LONGEVITY TABLE

Age Group				Males	Females	Total
0 — 1 years	..	..		3	1	4
1 — 5 years	..	..		1	1	2
5 — 10 years	..	..		—	1	1
10 — 20 years	..	..		—	1	1
20 — 30 years	..	..		—	1	1
30 — 40 years	..	..		1	3	4
40 — 50 years	..	..		7	6	13
50 — 60 years	..	..		22	12	34
60 — 70 years	..	..		36	28	64
70 — 80 years	..	..		60	48	108
80 — 90 years	..	..		37	50	87
90 —100 years	..	..		2	12	14
Totals				169	164	333

The oldest age at death in Stroud Rural District during 1959 was a lady of 96 years. It is again interesting to note that the female sex are living much longer than the male. 12 ladies lived to over 90 as compared with only 2 men.

DEATHS IN MONTHS OF THE YEAR

January	..	..	..	..	43 cases
February	.	..	..	..	36 cases
March	..	..	..	..	47 cases
April	..	..	..	..	32 cases
May	..	..	..	..	27 cases
June	..	.	..	..	19 cases
July	..	..	..	..	14 cases
August	..	..	..	..	22 cases
September	..	..	..	..	18 cases
October	..	..	..	..	24 cases
November	..	..	..	..	27 cases
December	..	..	..	..	24 cases
Total					333 cases

The worst months of the year during 1959 for deaths were January and March and the best month was July, with only 14 deaths.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN AGE GROUPS 1959

Disease		Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5—9 years	10—14 years	15—24 years	25 years & over	Age unknown	TOTAL
Dysentery ..	..	1	3	3	3	5	21	7	1	9	—	53*
Erysipelas ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Measles ..	..	18	36	56	56	60	354	32	2	2	—	616
Pneumonia ..	..	—	—	1	—	1	—	3	1	15	—	21
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	3
Scarlet Fever ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	—	6
Whooping Cough ..	..	1	2	7	3	5	11	—	—	2	—	31
Total												732

*This does not include 2 cases originally notified but not confirmed.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

The following Immunisations and Vaccinations have been carried out within the District during 1959 by General Practitioners and Local Authority Doctors:-

No. of Children who completed a full course of Primary Immunisation

	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	Total
G.P. ..	205(142)	41(24)	9(7)	8(4)	3(2)	19(9)	—	285(188)
L.A. ..	224	57	2	2	7	45	—	337

No. of Children who received a re-inforcing dose

	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	Total
G.P. ..	—	—	—	—	9(4)	31(7)	—(—)	40(11)
L.A. ..	—	—	—	—	48	693	16	757

Note :- Figures in Brackets denote Combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough injections included in totals.

VACCINATION — SMALLPOX

	Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	15 years & over	Total
Primary ..	168	10	10	6	15	209
Re-Vaccination ..	2	—	3	7	36	48

VACCINATION — WHOOPING COUGH

	Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	Total
Whooping Cough Vaccination ..	236	23	9	8	276
Combined Diphtheria / Whooping Cough Prophylaxis (obtained by and given by General Practitioners)	142	24	17	16	199

TUBERCULOSIS

Three deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis occurred during the year, and there are 208 cases remaining on the Register. Three tuberculous patients were re-housed during the year.

Cases on Register

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	74	82	156
Non-Pulmonary	25	27	52
	<hr/> 99	<hr/> 109	<hr/> 208

TABLE SHOWING AGES OF NEW CASES, IN-TRANSFERS AND DEATHS

Age	New Cases				In-Transfers				Deaths	
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14 years ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24 years ..	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
25—44 years ..	3	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
45—64 years ..	3	2	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	1
65 and over ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Age Unknown .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47

Removal of Persons in need of Care and Attention to suitable premises

No cases arose during the year calling for action under this Act.

INTERNATIONAL VACCINATION CERTIFICATES

During the year 133 International Vaccination Certificates were signed by the General Practitioners in this District and were stamped and countersigned by me.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Once again I am indebted to Mr. J. B. Powell, your Deputy Clerk, for providing the following meteorological report:-

Rainfall in inches during the year

January	..	..	.	..	4.93	16 days
February	..	..	..	..	.19	4 days
March	..	..	..	..	2.55	17 days
April	..	..	..	..	3.47	16 days
May	..	..	..	..	1.47	8 days
June	..	..	..	..	2.96	15 days
July	..	..	..	..	2.50	9 days
August	..	..	..	..	1.86	7 days
September	..	..	..	..	.21	3 days
October	..	..	..	..	2.24	16 days
November	..	..	..	..	3.66	17 days
December	..	..	..	..	5.62	23 days

Total: 31.66 inches in 151 days.

Wettest day : June 25th — 1.28 inches.
Wettest month : December — 5.62 inches.
Driest Month : February — 0.19 inches.
Hottest Day : July 4th — 85°F.
Coldest Night : January 15th — 15°F (i.e. 17° air frost).

Temperatures

			Maximum	Minimum	Mean
January	..	..	40.8	28.4	34.6
February	..	..	44.6	32.8	38.7
March	..	..	52.8	38.3	45.5
April	..	..	56.0	38.8	47.4
May	..	..	65.4	43.9	54.7
June	..	..	69.6	47.6	58.1
July	..	..	73.0	49.5	61.2
August	..	..	71.8	50.9	61.4
September	..	..	71.0	46.7	58.9
October	..	..	62.8	43.2	53.0
November	..	..	49.7	37.7	43.7
December	..	..	47.4	35.8	41.6

Mean of maximum for year — 58.7°F.
Mean of minimum for year — 41.1°F.
Mean of temperature for year — 49.9°F.

PART II

REPORT OF SURVEYOR AND CHIEF HEALTH INSPECTOR, STROUD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my sixth annual report on the work carried out by the Department.

The boom in building has continued unabated, 780 plans and applications being deposited for consideration under the Planning and Public Health Acts. This represents an increase of 27% over the 1958 figure and of 68% over the 1954 figure. It is by far the largest total ever recorded in the history of this Council.

153 private enterprise and Council houses were completed during the year and 164 were in course of construction.

I was very glad when the Council appointed Mr. C. M. Partridge during the year to assist the Building Inspector and Clerk of Works in their duties. His extra help has enabled the work to be kept up to date and the statutory duties of the Council properly carried out.

Licensing of petroleum installations is an unspectacular yet important part of the Council's duties. Following several serious fires involving loss of life the Home Office produced a new Model Code of Conditions and Memorandum relating to such installations. These were adopted by this Council and a detailed survey of all premises and installations is now being made. A large amount of work is involved which it is hoped to complete as speedily as possible.

I would draw particular attention to the section in my report dealing with the unfit housing programme. This has been one of the most difficult tasks ever faced by the Council, but with their continued support and close co-operation between all officers much success has been achieved. I feel we can well be proud of the redevelopment which has taken place on cleared sites and the general happiness and contentment of families displaced from condemned houses and moved into new ones.

Six further clearance areas were declared, making a total of twenty since the start of our programme. Sixty-five individual properties were dealt with and since the start of our programme action has now been initiated in respect of 370 houses.

Forty-five improvement grants were authorised making a total to the end of the year of 268.

The House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 came into force in June and introduced a new type of standard improvement grant. Generally very great interest is being taken by property owners in improvement grants and the work entailed in the department is considerable.

A further important advance towards sewerage the district was achieved when Ministry permission to lay a sewer to Chalford was received. Work also proceeded during the year on extensions at Westrip, Leonard Stanley and Houndscroft, and a small disposal works at Horsley. The maintenance of the sewerage systems in the district is now a formidable task there being over fifty-five miles of sewers throughout the rural area.

Whilst the Food Hygiene Regulations are generally well observed, the sanitary accommodation in many of the licensed premises still leaves much to be desired. The magnitude of the task faced by the Brewery Companies is appreciated but it is obvious they will have to make very strenuous efforts to remedy the unsatisfactory conditions.

The maintenance of an adequate labour force of manual workers is becoming more and more difficult. The rates of pay that can be offered are not attractive and the right type of man just cannot be obtained. A number of employees are nearing retiring age and the situation may then become critical. Loss of time through illness is another disturbing feature and I regret having to record that during 1959 while fifteen of the men lost no time at all the remaining thirty were absent for a total of 706 days.

In retrospect 1959 has been an extremely busy year and I am grateful for the continued help and support of the Chairman and all members of the Council.

A real spirit of co-operation and helpfulness exists throughout the office and I gratefully acknowledge the assistance I have received from the Clerk, Medical Officer of Health and other Officers.

Finally I would like to thank the members of my own department for the efficient and loyal way in which they have carried out their work.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

H. F. CRITCHLEY,

Surveyor and Chief Health Inspector

Council Chambers,
John Street,
Stroud, Glos.

1. WATER SUPPLY

There were fewer complaints about water and less need for so many samples to be taken during 1959, than in previous years. Out of thirteen samples of drinking water taken from springs and wells it was unusual, but pleasing to find that nine were reasonably satisfactory and only four seriously polluted. Of these four, one spring supply has already been replaced by the Stroud District Water Board's mains and two others are to be connected to the mains as soon as problems of Wayleaves have been settled.

Four samples of swimming bath water were taken during the summer months from Wycliffe College. The first were reported as only fair but the last two, after improved cleansing, were recorded as satisfactory.

One serious complaint arose of a house being without any supply of domestic water and preliminary and statutory notices had to be served on an agent, the owner being abroad. The supply had not been renewed by December 31st, 1959 and it is likely that the Council may have to carry out the necessary work in 1960 in default and endeavour to recover some of the costs.

REPORT OF THE ENGINEER AND MANAGER STROUD DISTRICT WATER BOARD

Mr. A. N. Peters has kindly supplied the following information:-

Source of Supply

The water for the Stroud Rural area is obtained from springs at Chalford and Nailsworth. During the drought of last Summer while the total yield decreased there was sufficient to meet the demand and no restrictions on the use of water were necessary. The heavy rains in the end of November and December have fully restored the springs.

Quality of Water

The Analyst's report on samples of water before and after Chlorination taken during the year are as follows:—

Samples	No. of samples	B. Coli per 100 mls. (non faecal)					
		0	1	2	5	10	25
Untreated Water ..	15	6	1	—	5	—	2
Chlorinated Water..	36	31	4	1	—	—	—

Main Laying

During the year the mains were extended to supply the further development of the Stonehouse Park Site and Minchinhampton Glebe Site. Contracts have been let for laying new mains in Minchinhampton and Painswick to replace the existing pipes.

Properties served with mains water

Bisley	..	..	..	..	420
Chalford	..	..	..	..	862
Cranham	..	..	..	..	104
Horsley	..	..	..	..	270
Kings Stanley	..	..	..	..	540
Leonard Stanley	..	..	..	..	400
Minchinhampton	..	..	..	..	1,430
Miserden	..	..	..	..	100
Painswick	..	..	..	..	918
Pitchcombe	..	..	..	..	90
Randwick	..	..	..	..	260
Rodborough	..	..	..	..	500
Stonehouse	..	..	..	..	1,760
Thrupp	..	..	..	..	570
Whiteshill	..	..	..	..	440
Woodchester	..	..	..	..	265
					<hr/>
					8,929
					<hr/>

2. CESSPOOL SERVICE

Again during 1959 the cesspool service was kept fully occupied. The laying of new sewers and the increase of sewer connections appear to have had little effect on lessening the need for this service.

Assistance has continued to adjoining districts on the normal payment basis.

3. SEWERAGE

The work of connection to the main sewer of the properties within the boundary of the Moor Court Hotel, Amberley, was completed early in the year and it is hoped that the work of connecting Amberley Ridge Special School will be completed in 1960.

The extension of the sewer at Marsh Lane, Leonard Stanley, was completed in July, approximately 3 months after the estimated date of completion. This delay was caused mainly by bad weather conditions in the early stages of the work and the restricted working space. The total length of sewer laid was 1,080 feet with 5 manholes, making the total length of sewer for the Parish of Leonard Stanley 11,814 feet with 55 manholes. The whole of the properties in Marsh Lane has now been connected to this new length of sewer.

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Samples	No. of samples	B. Coli per 100 mls. (non faecal)					
		0	1	2	5	10	25
Untreated Water ..	15	6	1	—	5	—	2
Chlorinated Water..	36	31	4	1	—	—	—

4. STROUD AND DISTRICT JOINT SEWERAGE WORKS

Mr. Boothman, Manager of the Works, has kindly supplied the following report:—

The Stroud and District Sewage Works deals with sewage from the Urban Districts of Stroud and Nailsworth and a greater part of the Rural District.

1. Brief Description of Works

The scheme was designed to deal with a D.W.F. of 1,000,000 galls/day from a population of 40,000.

It is a Modern Scheme designed on the Biological percolating filter system incorporating “Alternating Double Filtration” and “Recirculation”.

The sewage, stormwater and trade wastes gravitate to the outfall works through a 36in. trunk sewer passing a measuring flume where flows up to 8,000,000 galls/day are recorded on a Lea Recorder.

Complete treatment is given to 3,000,000 galls/day which has to be pumped, the excess flow being given sedimentation treatment for removal of solids before discharge into the River Frome.

Gas is collected from the sludge and used in the digestion process. The digested sludge is dried on open drying beds.

2. Sludge Production

Our annual production of sludge is in the region of 3200 tons, of which approx. 1,000 tons is sold in the form of compost.

The title of the Committee has been re-named the “Stroud and District Sewerage and Composting Joint Committee”, and the problems of composting sewage sludge with towns refuse is still active in the minds of the Committee and its Officers.

Other methods of sludge drying have been investigated and a mechanical method at Colchester has been tried on our sludge. These tests were not very successful and rather costly to operate.

3. Future Developments

The works are overloaded at the present time and good progress has been made during the past year with the Ministry regarding extensions to the works.

The Consulting Engineers, Messrs. Bateman & Partners of Bath prepared a scheme to bring the capacity of the plant up to a D.W.F. of 2,000,000 galls/day. This was considered by a Senior Engineering Inspector following a local investigation on the 17th September.

It was clear from the Inspectors report that the scheme put forward for the extensions to the sewage works was considered inadequate, and the Consulting Engineers are now to prepare a revised scheme for consideration as follows:—

D.W.F. Design for New Scheme

Domestic	1.5	million	
Infiltration		..	1.0	million	
Trade Waste		..	0.4	million	
				<hr/>	
				2.9	million
				<hr/>	(say 3,000,000 galls/day)

Complete Treatment for Storm Periods

Three times Domestic	..	..	1.5 x 3	=	4.5	
Infiltration		..	1.0	=	1.0	
Trade Wastes		..	0.4	=	0.4	
					<hr/>	
					5.9	
					<hr/>	(say 6,000,000 galls/day)

5. REFUSE COLLECTION, DISPOSAL AND SALVAGE

The normal weekly collection schedules have been maintained during 1959. The staff and vehicles used have remained the same in spite of the building of a further 153 new houses during the year. This has been possible partly by reason of the excellent fleet of refuse vehicles now available and partly due to the hard and willing way in which the men employed on this arduous task have worked. Some 10,000 properties are visited weekly and complaints from the public are few and far between.

The following table shows the vehicles and men engaged on refuse collection:—

No.	Make of Vehicle	Type	Capacity	Engine	Men Employed
1	Dennis	Rear Loader	22 cu. yds.	Diesel	1 Driver 2 Loaders
2	Dennis	Rear Loader	22 cu. yds.	Diesel	1 Driver 2 Loaders
3	Dennis	Rear Loader	15 cu. yds.	Diesel	1 Driver 1 Loader
4	Dennis	Rear Loader	10 cu. yds.	Diesel	1 Driver 1 Loader
5	Dennis	Rear Loader	6 cu. yds.	Diesel	1 Driver 1 Loader
6	Ford	Side Loader	10 cu. yds.	Petrol	Spare Vehicle

It will be seen that the Council's policy originated some 7 years ago of standardising on make of vehicle and type of engine has been followed. The Ford side loading vehicle is the only one with a petrol engine and this is over 8 years old and due to be replaced in 1960/61. On average each diesel engine is saving some 60 gallons of fuel per month as compared with a petrol engined vehicle.

Each of the Dennis vehicles has a separate compartment for salvage. It is pleasing to record that total receipts at £1,886 17s. 0d. are almost £100 up on 1958. On December 1st the price received for waste paper increased from £6 to £7 per ton and if this increase is maintained a worthwhile improvement should be shown in the 1960 figures.

Details were as follows 1958 figures being shown in brackets.

	Weight Collected				Value		
	tons cwts. qrs.				£	s.	d.
Waste Paper ..	254	17	3	(226)	1,552	19	6 (£1,502)
Rags and Metals ..	17	3	0	(13)	333	17	6 (£286)
Totals	272	0	3	(239)	£1,886	17	0 (£1,788)

Disposal of Refuse has continued at the Crane Quarry, Minchinhampton. In February the Stroud Urban District Council stated that their tip was completely full and asked permission to tip at Minchinhampton. This was granted, the Urban Council paying an agreed proportion of the total costs for disposal. Fortunately a new bulldozer was on order and delivery of this was expedited to cope with the increase in tipping. Large quantities of trade refuse were also brought to the tip by Stroud traders and with builders and other miscellaneous waste as many as 50 loads per day have been received at Minchinhampton. A greatly increased quantity of soil and rubble was needed to cover the refuse each day and with the new bulldozer it was possible to excavate this from the Crane Quarry itself. Up to 200 tons per week have been excavated and this has not only saved the cost of purchasing and haulage but has provided more space for the tipping of refuse.

As stated in the 1958 Annual Report it had been estimated that the Minchinhampton tip would be filled by the end of 1959 and a new site at Thrupp brought into use. Early in 1959 however the County Education Committee and Stroud Secondary School managers asked whether it would be possible to reclaim a disused clay and gravel pit at Gannicox thereby providing a very badly needed extension to the school playing fields. This request was given careful consideration and it was decided that, despite the proximity of houses a carefully controlled tipping scheme could be carried through without danger to health or undue nuisance to nearby residents. Considerable opposition to the scheme was

received from people living near the tip but eventually Planning Permission was obtained and the scheme approved. Every effort will be made to minimise any nuisance during tipping operations. At the end of 1959 preliminary work was well in hand and it was thought the tip would open in the Spring of 1960.

The new bulldozer produces considerable consolidation of the refuse and this with the excavation of soil and rubble at the Minchinhampton Quarry has fortunately given a slightly longer tipping life at Minchinhampton than was originally anticipated.

6. BUILDING OF NEW HOUSES

153 Private Enterprise and Council Houses were completed during the year and 164 were under construction.

7. PLANS DEPOSITED FOR APPROVAL UNDER PLANNING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

During 1959, 780 plans and planning applications were deposited which represents a monthly average of 65. An increase of 27% over the 1958 figure and a rise of 68% over the 1954 figure.

8. STORAGE OF PETROLEUM SPIRIT

A detailed survey of installations and premises is being carried out at the present time. Up to date 33 licences have been granted, to expire on the 30th September, 1960. This work is proceeding as speedily as possible but much still remains to be done.

Several installations and spirit stores have been abandoned and the storage of spirit discontinued due to the high cost of bringing those premises up to a satisfactory standard for the safe-keeping of petrol.

9. HOUSING

The rate of progress in dealing with unfit houses was well maintained during 1959. Redevelopment of the sites of Clearance Area with new housing continues to prove the best policy. Sixteen new homes were completed on the site of twenty unfit houses which were demolished at the centre of the village of Kings Stanley. This clearance area was declared in December 1956 and by July 1959 the tenants had been rehoused, the land had been acquired, the old houses demolished and the new homes completed and occupied. This rate of redevelopment is very satisfactory and owes much to the high level of co-operation between the Council and all the

Officers concerned. Rebuilding was also completed during the year on the site of clearance area No. 10 at Seven Waters, Leonard Stanley. The six unfit houses were replaced by eight new homes. In this case also redevelopment took just over two years from the date of the declaration of the Area.

Clearance areas Nos. 15 to 20 were declared during 1959. These involved a total of thirty-five houses. The largest area at Stonehouse comprised nineteen houses. Two clearance orders and one compulsory purchase order was made. Several areas were acquired by agreement and negotiations for the purchase of other areas were well advanced at the year end.

Sixty-five individual unfit houses were dealt with under the provisions of section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957. Twenty-five demolition orders and thirty-five closing orders were made. Seven undertakings were accepted.

Forty-five Improvement Grants were authorised in 1959. This was more than in 1958 and brought the number of grants authorised since 1949 up to a total of 268. The House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 came into force on the 14th June, and introduced a new type of standard grant for the installation of five specific amenities. The publicity given to the Act stimulated a great many enquiries about both types of grant, but by the end of the year only five standard grants had been authorised.

Experience of the standard grant scheme suggests that the attempt at simplification has created many problems. Authorities vary widely in their interpretation of the Act's provisions and without further detailed guidance from the Ministry wide divergencies in administration between authorities are inevitable.

Three applications for certificate of disrepair were received under the provisions of the Rent Act, 1957. One certificate was cancelled. Few enquiries were received about the Act during the year. There is little evidence to suggest that the Act has stimulated repairs to rented property on any significant scale.

The smooth progress in dealing with the District's unfit houses owes much to the ready co-operation of the Council's Housing Manager, Mr. Russell, and his staff. All the different Departments play some part in clearance and redevelopment and without constant liaison and goodwill the programme would soon reach a standstill.

The following table shows the number of visits made to houses for various purposes during the year.

Houses Inspected	..	..	..	..	116
Re-inspections following above			..	..	279
Visits re: Improvement Grants			..	..	102
Improvement Grants revisits	..	..	..		150
Visits: re: Standard Grants		25
Standard Grants revisits		6
Visits re: certificates of disrepair		7
					<hr/> 685 <hr/>

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The ten new homes on the site of Clearance Area No. 3 at Leonard Stanley were occupied early in the year.

TABLE SHOWING PROGRESS MADE IN DEALING WITH UNFIT HOUSES IN THE STROUD RURAL AREA

Stroud R.D.C.

HOUSING

(a)	Estimated number of unfit houses in the area (as returned to Minister)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	450
(b)	Estimated number of unfit houses to be dealt with in first 5 years (as approved by Minister under Section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	250

Action in period 1.1.59 to 31.12.59

(c)	Number of houses in Clearance Areas declared during period	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
(d)	Number of houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
(e)	Number of houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made (Not including any in Clearance Areas)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
(f)	Number of houses subject to official Undertakings (not including any in Clearance Areas)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7

Houses made fit for human habitation

(g)	Houses made fit under Section 9, Housing Act, 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
(h)	Houses included in (d), (e) or (f) made fit during the period	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
(i)	Houses included in (a) made fit by informal action	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

Houses acquired

(j)	Number of unfit houses acquired by local authority (excluding Houses in above categories)	10
-----	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

Houses demolished

(k)	Houses included in (a) actually demolished	121
-----	--	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----

Progress to 31.12.59

(l)	Total number of houses included in (a) above dealt with up to 31.12.59	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	370
(m)	Percentage of approved 5 year programme initiated to date	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100%

Improvement Grants

Improvement Grants authorised in 1949-1958
Improvement Grants authorised in 1959-

..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	223
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50

HOUSING MANAGEMENT

Mr. Russell, Housing Manager, has kindly supplied the following comments on the work of his department during the year:—

Sixty-three new houses were completed during the year and again the main emphasis of the housing programme has been on slum clearance.

Of the houses erected, seven were specially designed for old people and many more properties were suitable to the needs of this group.

At the close of the year, seventy new properties were under construction and of this figure nineteen were again specially designed for the older age group. Experience is showing that a slum clearance policy is creating a need for more accommodation of this type. Our aim now is to create a balance of all types of accommodation in each Parish.

The policy of changing metal windows in pre-war houses has proceeded steadily and consideration is now being given to the modernisation of pre-war properties, the main item of which will be the provision of a hot water system.

The Rent Rebate Scheme has continued to work well and has been a blessing to many families who it would otherwise have been difficult to house.

There has been a growing demand for garages and efforts have been made to provide this facility wherever it is required. In order not to over-build, a policy of providing hardstands, for which a tenant pays a nominal rent, has been tried and is working satisfactorily.

10. CARAVANS

Two new sites were licensed during the year and twenty-one licences for individuals to station caravans were granted. There are now a total of seventy licences to station caravans in the district and eight licensed sites.

Generally this has not been such a satisfactory year from the point of view of:—

- (a) The number of applicants applying for licences on unsuitable sites,
- (b) the standard of trailer vans appearing in the area and
- (c) full compliance with conditions set out in licences.

Several reports had to be made to the Public Health Committee and warnings issued to individuals.

11. FACTORIES

The provisions of the Factories Act, 1937 are being satisfactorily complied with throughout the district.

Necessary alterations and amendments to Certificates as to Means of Escape in case of Fire under Section 34 of the Act are still taking up a considerable time, particularly in the preparation of plans. This type of work is likely to continue due to the continual alterations and extensions to factories during this prosperous period.

12. CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

During 1958 all factories were circularised pointing out the salient provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956. A considerable number of smoke observations were taken of various factories throughout the district and after preliminary intimation notices, improvements were made in three cases. One large Company agreed to instal mechanical stokers at considerable expense and when all this work is successfully completed worthwhile improvements can be expected in the emission of smoke.

Towards the end of the year complaints were received of an alleged smoke and soot nuisance from a brickworks in the Stonehouse area. Observations of this chimney are still being taken and enquiries made.

No applications were received under sub-section 2 of Section 3 of the Act.

13. RAG FLOCK

There has been no change in the five factories already registered under Section 2 of the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951. Of the six factories licensed under Sections 6/7 of the Act one company has discontinued its business. The remaining five firms hold a B.S.I. licence under the Certification Mark Scheme.

Seven samples were taken from the licensed premises during the year and in all cases the prescribed analyst certified that the samples complied with the standards laid down in the 1951 Act.

14. CONTROL OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

The Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 are generally being well complied with throughout the district now that the main structural alterations and the provision of washhand basins and hot water supplies have been successfully accomplished in shops, cafes,

canteens, restaurants, hotels and places of entertainment. Last year's policy of patience in connection with financial difficulties experienced by some village halls has proved worthwhile. Improvements were carried out by informal action to five halls in 1959 including, in one case, the construction of a complete new kitchen.

Table showing action taken under the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

Number of preliminary notices served	44
Number of statutory notices served	4
Number of preliminary notices complied with ..	52
Number of statutory notices complied with ..	4

It was not found necessary to take any legal proceedings during the year for extraneous matter in food stuffs. Very few complaints of this nature were received and those brought to the notice of this department were only of a minor nature. In all cases warnings and advice to the manufacturers or retailers concerned prevented any recurrence.

Tables IV to VII at the end of this report indicate the quantity and variety of the work involved.

Licensed Premises

Considerable attention has again been directed towards licensed premises. The Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, have now been satisfactorily enforced with the exception of three houses still under notice.

Unfortunately the same cannot be said of the requirements of the Public Health Act, 1936, with regard to sanitary accommodation. Earlier surveys had shown that a great many of the public houses throughout the district were deficient in proper and separate lavatory accommodation for the sexes and often the licensee had no separate facilities for himself or his family. It was hoped that the Brewery Companies would continue and indeed increase their efforts to modernise their properties during the year. Although they were co-operative in providing relatively inexpensive fittings in order to comply with the minimum standards required by the Food Regulations, little effort was made to commence new drainage schemes or provide adequate and satisfactory sanitary conveniences. In a number of cases after notice by the Public Health Inspector, plans were later deposited with the Health Department and approved by the Council, but often no work was put in hand.

In some instances special reports were made to members of the Public Health Committee who expressed grave concern at the generally unsatisfactory state of many of the public houses in their

Parishes. There is reason to believe that adjoining districts have similar problems and Dr. Cooper has suggested a joint meeting between the Public Health Inspectors concerned in an endeavour to formulate a policy of action based on an agreed standard of hygiene and sanitation.

It is hoped that this meeting can be held early in 1960 and I feel sure that this Council will fully support any reasonable action which this department is able to adopt in order to obtain some very necessary improvements.

Number of licensed premises on register	.. .. .	94
Number of premises considered to be in all reasonable respects satisfactory	.. .. .	48
Number of premises requiring improvements or major repairs or alterations	.. .. .	45
Number of premises proposed to be closed by the Brewery Companies during the first half of 1960	.. .. .	1
	Total	94

Mobile Traders

The Council declared 1st July, 1959 as the Appointed Day from which Section 154 of the Gloucestershire County Council Act, 1956 should have effect in their area.

Subject to certain provisions and special exemptions all persons selling any food from vehicles, containers or stalls shall be registered by the local authority as Hawkers. In addition all premises used as storage accommodation for food intended for sale by mobile traders shall be registered before they can be used.

All known traders were sent details of these new requirements and inspections of all their vehicles and premises were carried out. A number of improvements were obtained particularly in regard to the covering and protection of open food and cold storage, and in several instances traders were persuaded to change their vehicles for more modern and suitable types. In this way opportunities were taken to banish open lorry type vehicles protected only by dirty, inadequate and flapping canvas side screens from the district.

Table IV, part 2, at the end of this report gives an indication of the preliminary work carried out since this particular section of the County Council's Act came into force last July.

15. DAIRIES AND MILK RETAILERS

Seventeen Supplementary Licences were granted to Dairymen from other districts to retail milk in the rural area.

Fifteen premises were registered as dairies and eleven T.T. Licences and seven Pasteurised Licences were issued during the year to dealers.

The majority of dealers obtain their milk from a large Pasteurising Company within the Stroud Urban district, as they have done for the past few years. All holders of appropriate licences have complied with the conditions laid down and no written warnings were necessary.

16. BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLES OF MILK

A total of 63 samples of milk were taken during the year in the proportions shown in the following table:-

Number of Tuberculin Tested Samples taken	..	..	..	28
Number of Tuberculin Tested Samples satisfactory	..	..	..	25
Number of Tuberculin Tested Samples which failed the Methylene Blue Test	..	..	..	3
Number of Pasteurised Samples taken	..	..	..	35
Number of Pasteurised Samples satisfactory	..	..	..	34
Number of Pasteurised Samples which failed the Phosphatase Test	..	..	..	1
Number of Samples taken for biological purposes	..	..	..	Nil

Despite the exceptionally hot summer and dry weather, sampling results throughout the whole of the district have proved very satisfactory and no difficulties were experienced concerning the keeping qualities of milk. The one serious failure of the Phosphatase Test was referred to the County Council who are the authorised authority for dealing with pasteurisation plants. It can safely be said that the majority of teething troubles, experienced over the past few years, as a result of becoming a Designated Area have been resolved. This has occurred mainly at the expense of the small dairymen who now find it more expedient to obtain their supplies from the main dairy within the Stroud Urban district. From a Public Health point of view the system has led to improved standards and this seems to be the current trend throughout the country.

The biggest problem still to be solved is that of the dirty and chipped milk bottles. Complaints arise from time to time of milk being delivered to the consumer in dirty bottles, resulting in the first instance from misuse by consumers followed by failure to carefully inspect and reject such bottles at the dairy. The solution from a Public Health point of view, of course, is non-returnable cartons, but we are still unlikely to see this on a large scale due to the prohibitive costs.

17. ICE CREAM SAMPLES

No changes have occurred in the three premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream in the district and 92 premises are registered for the sale of this product. Again the quality during the year has been excellent. A total of thirty-five samples of ice cream and seven samples of iced lollies were taken and the results are indicated in the following Table.

Grade I	..	..	..	..	..	18
Grade II	..	..	..	..	..	13
Grade III	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Grade IV	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Void	..	..	..	..	..	4
Iced Lollies	..	..	..	..	..	7—Satisfactory

18. LABORATORY FACILITIES USED

Samples of milk, ice cream and water which were taken in routine sampling during the year have been examined at Bristol and Bath.

The staff in the bacteriological departments and in the department of the Public Analyst have been most co-operative and interested in the various problems presented to them.

During February a fairly large outbreak of Sonn  dysentery occurred at Stonehouse and a great deal of time was spent in obtaining samples. One hundred and seven original faecal samples were taken, fifty-two of which were found to be positive. Altogether two hundred and fifty two samples were obtained in following up and preventing the spread of this particular epidemic. The samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Bristol, under Dr. Cayton and to Dr. E. N. Davey at the Gloucester Royal Hospital.

It will be appreciated that such a large number of samples over a short period can seriously over-load the Laboratory facilities in any area and I would like to record my appreciation to the bacteriological staffs for their co-operation and hard work.

19. FOOD POISONING

At the end of 1959 a small outbreak of suspected food poisoning occurred at a residential school in the area where a number of school children became ill. The patients quickly recovered but an investigation was made of the kitchen staff.

It was found that seven of the staff of twenty-two had pathogenic staphylococci in their noses and throats. In addition Salmonella organisms were found in the stools of one of the staff. This person was suspended from work and treated by her local doctor until three negative samples were obtained. Certain items of food examined failed to show these organisms so that the cause of the actual outbreak cannot be ascertained with any certainty.

TABLE I

Summary of Visits and Inspections under Public Health Acts

Water Supply	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
Water Sampling	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Stables and Piggeries	..	..	..	..	..	..	25
Tents, Vans and Sheds	..	..	..	..	..	..	102
Rag Flock	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Refuse collection and disposal	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Rats and mice	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Atmospheric Pollution	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Shops Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Filthy and Verminous premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Disinfestation	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
House Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	42
Investigations of Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	233
Disinfections	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	481
Smoke Observations	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Total							1,053

TABLE II

Nuisances and Defects

In the following table are summarised the nuisances and defects dealt with during the year under the Public Health Acts, Byelaws and other enactments:—

Filthy and verminous premises	..	..	..	..	..	1
Drainage systems constructed, repaired or cleansed	..	..	..	..	..	14
Drains tested	..	..	..	..	..	174
Connections to sewer	..	..	..	..	..	3
Sanitary fittings renewed or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	11
Defective water/earth/chemical closets	..	..	..	..	..	7
Septic tanks constructed or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	1
Water Supply—polluted or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	2
Connections to water mains	..	..	..	..	..	4
Smoke Nuisances abated	..	..	..	..	..	2
Accumulations or deposits removed	..	..	..	..	..	2
Other nuisances	..	..	..	..	..	4
Total						225

TABLE III

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

Part I of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	33	1	Nil	Nil
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	84	69	4	Nil
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	117	70	4	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4). ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	Nil	1	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	4	4	Nil	1	Nil

Part VIII of the Act

OUTWORK (Section 110)

Nature of Work	No. of o/workers in August list required by Sec. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists
Wearing apparel (Making etc., Cleaning and Washing)	10	Nil	Nil
Carding etc., of buttons etc.	43	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	53	Nil	Nil

No other Outworkers notified in respect of other occupations

TABLE IV

The various food premises in the district are set out in the following table together with the number of visits made to each of them:—

1. Food Premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955/1957

(a) Number of Ice cream premises registered	..	..	..	92
Number of Registrations during 1959	..	..	..	10
Number of Inspections	..	..	..	59
(b) Number of premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages and preserved food etc.	..	..	..	26
Number of inspections	..	..	..	78
(c) Dairies				
Number of premises on register	..	..	..	12
Number of inspections	..	..	..	24

2. Gloucestershire County Council Act, 1956—Section 154

(a) Number of Food Storage premises registered	..	..	5
Number of registrations during 1959	..	..	5
Number of inspections	..	..	5
(b) Number of Hawkers of Food registered	..	..	11
Number of registrations during 1959	..	..	11
Number of Mobile Shops and Stalls operated by registered Hawkers	..	..	20
Number of Inspections	..	..	43

3. Unregistered Premises

	No. in Area	No. of Visits
Butchers	21	41
Fishmongers and Poulterers	9	6
Grocers	101	106
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	16	26
Bakehouses and Flour Confectioners	11	39
Licensed Premises	94	121
Hotels and Restaurants	18	18
Canteens	22	41
Places of Entertainment	15	39
Food Manufacturing Premises	1	3
Miscellaneous Food Visits	—	41
	<hr/> 308 <hr/>	<hr/> 481 <hr/>

TABLE V

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955/57

In the following Table are summarised contraventions found and remedied during the year:—

Repairs and improvements	..	..	..	..	38
Limewashed or cleansed	..	..	..	..	22
Improvements to equipment, etc.	..	..	..	..	39
Improvements to Sanitary conveniences	..	..	..	..	12
Inadequate hot and cold water supplies	..	..	..	..	25
Lack of or defective wash hand basins, towels, etc.	..	..	..	..	15
Lack of first aid materials	..	..	..	..	23
Lack of Clothing accommodation	..	..	..	..	4
Lack of or defective sinks, etc.	..	..	..	..	7
Insufficient lighting or ventilation	..	..	..	..	5
Lack of proper temperature control	..	..	..	..	2
Improvements to stores	..	..	..	..	7
Total					199

TABLE VI

Milk and Dairies

Visits to dairies and milk distributors	24
---	----	----	----	----

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949/1954**Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949/1953.**

Number of dealers licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk	..	7
Number of dealers licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	..	11
Number of Supplementary licences issued	..	17

TABLE VII

Table of Food Condemned during 1959**Butcher's Meat**

Decomposed beef	14 lbs.
-----------------	----	----	----	----	----	---------

Canned Foods

Meat	..	..	..	..	..	..	10 tins
Vegetables	..	..	..	..	..	..	25 tins
Fruit	..	..	..	..	..	..	36 tins
Soups	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 tins
Fish	..	..	..	..	..	..	6 tins
Milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	25 tins
Rice Pudding	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 tin
Tomato Juice	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 tin
Nescafe	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 tin

Miscellaneous

Jam	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 lbs.
Shelled Walnuts	..	..	..	..	..	..	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
Cakes	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 pkt.
Butter	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 lbs.
Lard	..	..	..	..	..	..	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.

Thornbury Rural District Council

Chairman:

J. H. COOKE, Esq., M.B.E., J.P.

Vice-Chairman:

Rev. W. A. PEEL

Solicitor and Clerk of the Council:

J. L. JUDD, Esq., D.P.A.

Councillors:

C. Allen, Esq.
E. Allen, Esq.
R. G. Allen, Esq.
J. E. Barbour, Esq.
L. W. Bosisto, Esq.
A. W. Boyt, Esq.
R. Bromley, Esq.
Rev. W. F. Burlton
J. Chadwick, Esq.
J. Clutterbuck, Esq.
A. T. Coles, Esq.
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W. Fowler, Esq.
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R. E. Iles, Esq., J.P.

G. James, Esq.
M. B. Jordan, Esq.
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Mrs. W. M. Pearce
F. W. Perry, Esq.
S. G. Shepherd, Esq.
J. Spratt, Esq.
Ald. H. R. Stephens, M.B.E.
R. C. B. Stride, Esq.
R. B. Templeton, Esq.
H. Tyler, Esq.
Mrs. W. L. Ward
Mrs. P. J. O. Wells
J. Whelpton, Esq.
D. J. Winstone, Esq.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

W. J. DOUGLAS COOPER, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor:

R. HUNTINGTON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor:

F. RUMMENS, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

G. E. BROWN, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., O.N.C. (BLDG.)

O. B. DOWNING, CERT. S.I.B., 1ST L.C.G.

Articled Pupil — R. J. HILL

Assistant to Chief Public Health Inspector:

J. T. OVENS

Deputy Building Surveyor:

J. D. TURNER, AFF.I.MUN.E., A.R.S.H.

Assistant to Building Surveyor:

D. J. WOODWARD, H.N.C. (BLDG.)

Rodent Officer:

G. MILTON

Senior Clerk: J. W. A. MOSS

Clerk: Mrs. P. GOULD

PART 1

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

One important change that has taken place in the nature of the chief trades carried out in the District is the addition of the Berkeley Nuclear Power Station.

- 1. Agriculture and Allied Trades.
- 2. Sharpness Docks and Shipbuilding.
- 3. Quarrying.
- 4. Building of caravans.
- 5. Brick and tile manufacture.
- 6. Braid and Loom Elastic Smallwares.
- 7. Salmon Fisheries.
- 8. Flour Mills.
- 9. Baking.
- 10. Aircraft Engineering.
- 11. Nuclear Power Station.

STATISTICS

Area of District (Acres)	..	..	..	..	..	61,337
Population	..	..	..	..	..	27,801
Number of inhabited properties	..	..	..	..	..	8,463
Rateable value	..	..	..	..	..	£298,344
Product of 1d. rate	..	..	..	..	..	£1,212
Percentage of Council Houses	..	..	..	..	..	18.17
Percentage of population served by mains water	..	..	..	..	..	90.3
Percentage of population served by modern sewers	..	..	..	..	..	58.2
Number of inhabitants per property	..	..	..	..	..	3.18

POPULATION OF THORNBURY RURAL DISTRICT

Year	Population
1891	16,542
1905 (Parish of Henbury taken in)	18,419
1913	19,223
1919	17,478
1921	17,576
1931	18,059
1951	25,848
1958	26,850
1959	27,801

MARRIAGES

By Registrar at Chapels	..	..	..	..	8
Registry Office Marriages	..	..	..	..	36
By Clergy	..	..	..	..	126
By authorised persons	..	..	..	..	6

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

				Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	226	224	450
Illegitimate	..	..	..	13	13	26
Total				239	237	476

Crude birth rate per 1,000 estimated mid-year population	..	17.47
Birth rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 estimated mid-year population		16.5
Comparability factor for births in this area	.. .. .	1.12
Therefore comparable Birth Rate	.. .. .	19.56
Estimated mid-year Home population	.. .. .	27,260
Illegitimate live Births per cent of total live births	.. .. .	5.2%

Still Births

				Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	2	6	8
Illegitimate	..	..	..	—	—	—
Total				2	6	8

Still birth rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 Live and Still Births	..	21.0
Still Birth rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	.. .. .	16.5
Number of Deaths of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	.. .. .	38.4
Number of Deaths of legitimate infants per 1,000 live births	.. .. .	11.1

Infant Mortality Rate

Death rate of Infants under 1 year, England and Wales, per 1,000 Live Births	.. .. .	22.2
Death Rate of Infants, Thornbury R.D., per 1,000 Live Births	..	12.6

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

				Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	2	3	5
Illegitimate	..	..	..	1	—	1
Total				3	3	6

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate

				Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	1	2	3
Illegitimate	..	..	..	1	—	1
Total				2	2	4

Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total Live Births	.. .. .	8.4
Deaths under 4 weeks, England and Wales, per 1,000 total Live Births		15.8

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate

Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total Live Births 4.2

Perinatal Mortality Rate

Still births and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 total live and still births 20.6
Still births and deaths under 1 week combined, England and Wales, per 1,000 total live and still births 34.2

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of Deaths Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births Nil

Causes of Deaths of Infants under 1 year

Sex	Age	Cause of death
Male	Three months	Lobar pneumonia—at home.
Female	Three hours	Atelectasis—at home.
Male	Five hours	Prematurity—Southmead Hospital.
Male	Three weeks	Hydrocephaly—Gloucester City Hospital.
Female	One week	Spina Bifida—Southmead Hospital.
Female	Five months	Hydrocephalus—Gloucester Royal Hospital.

Deaths

Number of Deaths registered in Thornbury Rural District during 1959:
Male: 143. Female: 147. Total 290.
Average age of all deaths in Thornbury Rural District during 1959 69.02 years
Average age of all Male deaths 68.56 years
Average age of all Female deaths 69.45 years
Death rate for England and Wales per 1,000 estimated Mid-year Population 11.6
Crude Death Rate in Thornbury R.D. per 1,000 population .. 10.63
Comparable factor for Deaths 0.99
Therefore corrected Death Rate for Thornbury Rural District .. 10.52
Average age of Male Deaths taking place outside the District .. 63.43 years
Average age of Female Deaths taking place outside the District .. 65.18 years
Average age of all Deaths taking place outside the District .. 64.41 years
75 deaths were transferred to Thornbury Rural District.
Average age of male deaths taking place in the District .. 70.63 years
Average age of female deaths taking place in the District .. 71.24 years
Average age of all deaths taking place in the District 70.93 years

MOST COMMON CAUSES OF DEATH IN THORNBURY RURAL DISTRICT

Heart Disease (including Coronary Disease)	..	107 cases
Cancer	.. .. .	43 cases
Vascular Intracranial Lesions	.. .. .	40 cases
Pneumonia	.. .. .	21 cases
Other ill-defined diseases	.. .. .	12 cases

Types of Cancer

Lung	..	..	..	..	8 cases
Brain	..	..	..	..	1 case
Uterus	..	..	..	..	2 cases
Breast	..	..	..	..	6 cases
Rectum	..	..	..	..	2 cases
Pancreas	..	..	..	..	3 cases
Ovary	..	..	..	..	5 cases
Stomach	..	..	..	..	6 cases
Kidney	..	..	..	..	2 cases
Prostate	..	..	..	..	1 case
Glands	..	..	..	..	1 case
Colon	..	..	..	..	2 cases
Bone	..	..	..	..	2 cases
Unspecified Cancer	..	..	..	..	1 case
Bladder	..	..	..	..	1 case
Total					43 cases

DEATHS IN MONTHS OF THE YEAR

			In the District	Out of District	Total
January	..	..	14	6	20
February	..	..	31	9	40
March	..	..	29	10	39
April	..	..	24	9	33
May	..	..	17	5	22
June	..	..	13	7	20
July	..	..	14	4	18
August	..	..	12	5	17
September	..	..	10	8	18
October	..	..	17	2	19
November	..	..	17	3	20
December	..	..	18	6	24
			216	74	290

DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS

Age			Male	Female	Total
0 — 1 yrs.	..	..	3	3	6
1 — 5 yrs.	..	..	1	—	1
10 — 20 yrs.	..	..	—	2	2
20 — 30 yrs.	..	..	1	2	3
30 — 40 yrs.	..	..	3	2	5
40 — 50 yrs.	..	..	7	3	10
50 — 60 yrs.	..	..	16	21	37
60 — 70 yrs.	..	..	30	23	53
70 — 80 yrs.	..	..	44	44	88
80 — 90 yrs.	..	..	31	41	72
90 — 100 yrs.	..	..	7	6	13
			143	147	290

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate

Deaths under 1 week per 1.000 total Live Births	4.2
---	----	----	----	-----

Perinatal Mortality Rate

Still births and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 total live and still births	..	..	..	..	..	20.6
Still births and deaths under 1 week combined, England and Wales, per 1.000 total live and still births	..	..	..	..	..	34.2

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of Deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Rate per 1.000 total live and still births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

Causes of Deaths of Infants under 1 year

Sex	Age	Cause of death
Male	Three months	Lobar pneumonia—at home.
Female	Three hours	Atelectasis—at home.
Male	Five hours	Prematurity—Southmead Hospital.
Male	Three weeks	Hydrocephaly—Gloucester City Hospital.
Female	One week	Spina Bifida—Southmead Hospital.
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Deaths

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Male: 143.	Female: 147.	Total 290.
Average age of all deaths in Thornbury Rural District during 1959		69.02 years
Average age of all Male deaths	..	68.56 years
Average age of all Female deaths	..	69.45 years
Death rate for England and Wales per 1.000 estimated Mid-year Population	..	11.6
Crude Death Rate in Thornbury R.D. per 1.000 population	..	10.63
Comparable factor for Deaths	..	0.99
Therefore corrected Death Rate for Thornbury Rural District	..	10.52
Average age of Male Deaths taking place outside the District	..	63.43 years
Average age of Female Deaths taking place outside the District	..	65.18 years
Average age of all Deaths taking place outside the District	..	64.41 years
75 deaths were transferred to Thornbury Rural District.		
Average age of male deaths taking place in the District	..	70.63 years
Average age of female deaths taking place in the District	..	71.24 years
Average age of all deaths taking place in the District	..	70.93 years

MOST COMMON CAUSES OF DEATH IN THORNBURY RURAL DISTRICT

Heart Disease (including Coronary Disease)	..	107 cases
Cancer	..	43 cases
Vascular Intracranial Lesions	..	40 cases
Pneumonia	..	21 cases
Other ill-defined diseases	..	12 cases

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN AGE GROUPS

DISEASE	Age Unknown	Under 1	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years	4—5 Years	6—9 Years	10—14 Years	15—19 Years	20—34 Years	35—44 Years	45—65 Years	Over 65 Years	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	1	2	—	6	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	13
Whooping Cough ..	—	—	—	3	2	5	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	16
Acute Polio :														
(a) Paralytic ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Non-paralytic ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	3	1	13	26	10	54	45	1	—	—	—	—	—	153
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute pneumonia ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	1	8
Dysentery ..	—	1	—	—	—	8	7	8	11	22	9	8	1	75
Smallpox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis														
(a) Infective ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
(b) Post infective ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food poisoning ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	3
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	3
Opth. Neon. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis														
(a) Respiratory ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	2	—	5
(b) Other ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
(c) Men. & CNS. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS :	3	3	15	31	12	73	60	10	17	31	13	15	2	284

TUBERCULOSIS

		New Cases			
Age		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
		M.	F.	M.	F.
0—15	..	—	—	—	—
15—	..	2	—	—	—
25—	..	1	—	1	—
35—	..	—	—	—	—
45—	..	—	—	—	2
55—	..	1	—	1	—
65+	..	1	—	—	—
		5	—	2	2

Cases remaining on Register 31.12.59.

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	116	50	166
Non-pulmonary ..	27	19	46
	143	69	212

ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING
NOTIFICATIONS (CORRECTED)

1. Thornbury Rural District Council Year 1959

2. Food Poisoning Notifications (Corrected) Returned to R.G.

1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	Total
Nil	Nil	2	Nil	2

3. Outbreaks due to Identified Agents

Total Outbreaks	Total Cases
1	2

Outbreaks due to:

(a) Chemical Poisons	Nil
(b) Salmonella Organisms	2
(c) Staphylococci (including toxins)	Nil
(d) C.I. Botulinum	Nil
(e) Other bacteria	Nil

4. Outbreaks of Undiscovered Cause

Total Outbreaks	Total Cases
Nil	Nil

5. Single Cases

Agent identified	Unknown Cause
Nil	Nil

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948, Section 47

Removal of Persons in need of care and attention to suitable premises.

During the year a number of cases were investigated by myself when it was not found necessary to take compulsory measures under the Act for removal. In each case persuasion worked and the old person was removed to a home or hospital for the chronic sick.

INTERNATIONAL VACCINATION CERTIFICATES

These Certificates have to be countersigned by the Medical Officer of Health for the District in which the General Practitioner resides who has carried out the vaccination. During the year 74 of these have been stamped and countersigned by me.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

The following Immunisations and Vaccinations have been carried out within the District during 1959 by General Practitioners and Local Authority Doctors:

No. of children who completed a full course of Primary Immunisation

	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	Total
G.P. ..	319(216)	46(22)	4(1)	—	3(2)	3(3)	—	375(244)
L.A. ..	119	29	8	3	4	39	—	202

No. of children who received a re-inforcing dose

	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	Total
G.P. ..	—	—	2(—)	3(1)	4(1)	21(4)	8(3)	38(9)
L.A. ..	—	—	2	3	63	524	7	599

N.B. Figures in Brackets denote Combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough injections included in total.

VACCINATION — SMALL POX

	Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	15 years & over	Total
Primary	220	11	12	12	10	265
Re-vaccination ..	1	—	1	2	14	18

VACCINATION — WHOOPING COUGH

	Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	Total
Whooping Cough Vaccination ..	188	18	9	7	222
Combined Diphtheria / Whooping Cough Prophylaxis (obtained by & given by General Practitioners)	216	22	5	10	253

METEROROLOGICAL REPORT

I have pleasure in submitting meteorological report for the year 1959 and comparison figures for the year 1958.

	1958	1959
Total Rainfall	33.74"	30.65"

Monthly Rainfall

			1958	1959
January	..	..	2.51"	3.33"
February	..	..	3.23"	0.28"
March	..	..	1.15"	2.39"
April	..	..	0.98"	2.52"
May	..	..	3.24"	1.19"
June	..	..	3.51"	2.62"
July	..	..	2.45"	2.77"
August	..	..	2.63"	2.58"
September	..	..	6.18"	0.17"
October	..	..	2.19"	3.29"
November	..	..	2.28"	3.36"
December	..	..	3.39"	6.15"
Wettest Day	..	..	2nd June	25th June

Average temperature during 1959 — 51.7 (°F)

Maximum — 82.0 (°F)

Minimum — 21.0 (°F)

Average Temperature (°F)

			1958	1959
January	..	..	39.4	37.1
February	..	..	43.1	39.7
March	..	..	40.0	45.8
April	..	..	45.8	49.7
May	..	..	53.0	55.5
June	..	..	57.9	59.7
July	..	..	61.5	63.1
August	..	..	61.1	63.5
September	..	..	59.4	59.9
October	..	..	52.9	55.7
November	..	..	44.5	46.1
December	..	..	41.5	44.3
Hottest Day	..	..	19th July	4th July
Coldest Day	..	..	24th January	1st January
Total hours of bright sun			1255.8 hrs.	1718.6 hrs.
Sunniest Day	..	..	24th June	14th June
Sunniest Month	..	..	May	July
Prevailing winds during year			S.W.	S.W.

This information was obtained through the kind collaboration of the Bristol Aeroplane Co. Ltd. for whose assistance I express my thanks.

PART II

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR AND CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To: The Chairman and Members,

THORNBURY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again through the good offices of the Medical Officer of Health I have been permitted to take part in the presentation of an Annual Report, at a time when the Rural District is experiencing unprecedented development and change.

Development of the District is continuing in many ways, by reason of the increased residential development, and the industrial developments principally connected with the Central Electricity Generating Board's Nuclear Power Station at Berkeley, and the proposals for a further generating station at Oldbury-on-Severn, coupled with the Imperial Chemical Industries Limited's Severnside development near Hallen.

Considerable acreages of land are held by speculative developers in the central and southern parts of the district. A starting date has not yet been given for the Severn Bridge and approach roads to which I made reference in last year's report.

The summer was an extremely dry one and the whole district benefited from the existence of an adequate supply of mains water in all parts. Because of pressure of other duties the department has been unable to make any concerted effort to acquire the connection of properties to the water mains.

Regarding the main sewerage schemes for various parts of the district the position on paper appears to be reasonably satisfactory, but I am not entirely satisfied with the position. The Alveston Sewerage scheme is nearing completion, and a start has been made on the sewerage of Charfield in connection with the Dursley Rural District Council's scheme of sewerage for Wotton-under-Edge. Nevertheless, we have a number of sewerage schemes programmed on which very little real progress appears to have been made, but I feel that considerable more pressure should be exerted in this direction.

So far as slum clearance and unfit houses are concerned the progress has been somewhat slow, in my opinion the reason being due to the delay in the development of sites and the building of new houses. The Council has accepted the revised five year programme which I hope it will be possible to achieve.

The department has continued its activities in all branches of its work and these are given in more detail under their respective headings. It will be seen from the Summary of Visits that there has been a substantial increase in the total number of visits made in the year from 13,646 in 1958 to 17,284 during the present year.

Toward the end of the year the Council implemented the proposal to engage an Articled Pupil and Mr. R. J. Hill of Thornbury was appointed.

Once again I would like to express my very sincere thanks for the help and support and unfailing courtesy which I have always received from the Chairman of the Council, the Chairmen and Members of the various Committees, fellow officers and staff.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. HUNTINGTON,

Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor

SUMMARY OF VISITS

Nature of Visit or Inspection

GENERAL SANITATION

Water Supply	..	..	..	..	..	..	83
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	209
Stables and Piggeries	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Offensive Trades	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Tents, Vans and Sheds	..	..	..	..	..	..	325
Factories (Workshops)	..	..	..	..	..	..	50
Outworkers	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Public Conveniences	..	..	..	..	..	..	98
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	68
Refuse Collection	..	..	..	..	..	..	195
Refuse Disposal	..	..	..	..	..	..	116
Rats and Mice	..	..	..	..	..	..	1602
Atmospheric Pollution	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	118
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	190
Council Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	4974
Sewage Disposal Works	..	..	..	..	..	..	246
Sewage Sampling	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
New Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	..	2975
Drain Tests and Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	1108
Improvement Grants	..	..	..	..	..	..	233
Improvement Grants—re-visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	176
Petroleum	..	..	..	..	..	..	37
Miscellaneous Visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	728

Under Public Health Acts

No. of Houses inspected	..	..	..	..	259
Visits paid to above Houses	..	..	..	..	340

Under Housing Acts

No. of Houses inspected	..	..	..	..	181
Visits paid to above Houses	..	..	..	..	597

Overcrowding

No. of Houses inspected	..	..	..	..	2
Visits paid to above Houses	..	..	..	..	3

Verminous Premises

No. of Houses inspected	..	..	..	..	27
Visits paid to above Houses	..	..	..	..	29

Miscellaneous Housing Visits	106
-------------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	-----

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Enquiries in cases of I.D.	..	..	..	..	4
Visits re Disinfection	..	..	..	..	4
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	..	..	..	..	12

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTIONS

Visits to Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	734
Visits to Shops and Stalls	..	..	..	..	6
Visits re Meat Inspection	..	..	..	..	2
Total Meat Inspection Visits	..	..	..	..	828
Visits to Butchers	..	..	..	..	33
Visits to Canteens	..	..	..	..	16
Visits to Dairies and Milk Producers	..	..	..	..	47
Visits to Fishmongers and Poulterers	..	..	..	..	13
Visits to Food Preparing Premises	..	..	..	..	52
Visits to Grocers	..	..	..	..	114
Visits to Greengrocers and Fruiterers	..	..	..	..	20
Visits to Ice Cream Premises	..	..	..	..	36
Visits to Market Stalls	..	..	..	..	25
Visits to Restaurants	..	..	..	..	60

Visits in connection with Sampling

Milk—Bacteriological	..	..	..	..	20
Milk—Biological	..	..	..	..	21
Ice Cream	..	..	..	..	17
Food and Drug Samples	..	..	..	..	3
General Miscellaneous Visits	..	..	..	..	57

TOTAL 17,284

NOTICES SERVED

Preliminary Notices Served	..	..	..	..	18
Statutory Notices Served	..	..	..	..	4
Prosecutions	..	..	..	..	—

SOME OF THE IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Houses, etc. Total

Roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	29
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	29
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	32
Walls pointed or repaired	..	..	..	..	19
Walls cement rendered	..	..	..	..	12
Windows repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	70
Doors repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	50
New yard surfaces or paths provided	..	..	..	..	23
Yard surfaces or paths drained, repaired or relaid	..	..	..	..	10
Ceiling plaster repaired or replaced	..	..	..	..	39
Floors relaid or repaired	..	..	..	..	46
Rooms where wall plaster repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	49
New firegrates provided	..	..	..	..	18
Dangerous structures demolished	..	..	..	..	—
Rooms where dampness remedied	..	..	..	..	5
Rooms where lighting improved	..	..	..	..	31
New sinks provided	..	..	..	..	24
Trapped waste pipes provided	..	..	..	..	31
New wash basins provided	..	..	..	..	28
New baths provided	..	..	..	..	25
Hot water systems provided	..	..	..	..	25
Houses where water supply provided inside houses	..	..	..	..	14
Ventilated food stores provided	..	..	..	..	22
Houses painted	..	..	..	..	21
Airing cupboards installed	..	..	..	..	29
New dust bins provided	..	..	..	..	6
Fuel store provided	..	..	..	..	13
Ditches and streams cleansed	..	..	..	..	6
No. of caravans provided with water supply	..	..	..	..	3
No. of caravans provided with sanitary accommodation	..	..	..	..	2
No. of premises converted from well to mains supply	..	..	..	..	15
Other defects remedied	..	..	..	..	12

Drainage

New drains constructed	..	..	..	..	43
Old drains reconstructed	..	..	..	..	20
Drains repaired	..	..	..	..	7
Inspection chambers provided or repaired	..	..	..	..	63
Inspection chamber cover provided	..	..	..	..	54
Soil pipes provided or repaired	..	..	..	..	23
Septic tanks provided	..	..	..	..	14
Cesspools provided	..	..	..	..	11
Self cleansing gullies provided	..	..	..	..	46
Drains and sewers cleansed	..	..	..	..	46

Water Closets

No. of premises converted from pail to water closets	25
New basins fixed	37
Cistern repaired or renewed	16
W.C's. provided with a sufficient water supply ..	25
Roofs, walls and floor renewed or repaired	20
Other defects remedied	33
	<hr/>
	1,221

HOUSING (Generally)

In my introduction to the report I referred to the general development of the district. There has been a continued steady increase in the rate of private building within the district. As there are few sites available for singular development this has led to an increase in speculative estate development at Patchway, Thornbury, Berkeley, Olveston, Pilning and Severn Beach and Alveston. In consequence of this the Council's housing programme has been made more difficult by reason of the lack of sites available for acquisition. Toward the end of the year the Council adopted a revised 5-year slum clearance programme and indicated their intentions to acquire the necessary sites well in advance of requirements, a policy which I have consistently advocated, and one which I hope will result in the speedier provision of council houses.

There have been alterations in the legislation concerning the acquisition of land for council houses and the Council must now pay the market price for any land they require. This has increased the cost of site acquisition from a price of about £100 to £200 per acre to about £1,500 per acre.

1. Private Enterprise

In my opening remarks I have referred to the development which is taking place, and I think it well worth while recording some of the influences which this has had in the District.

During the course of the year there was a very sudden and noticeable increase in land values with prices varying between £1,000 to £1,500 per acre with continuing upward trends, which appear to indicate that prices had not yet reached a ceiling.

The standard of building generally is fairly good, but it is still necessary to inspect buildings in course of construction at frequent intervals to ensure compliance with the Building Byelaws. Some of the principle defects which have to be watched for are:-

1. Wall cavities and ties fouled by mortar droppings.
2. The removal of turf or vegetable soil and improved oversite concrete with waterproof membrane.
3. Timber joists and purlins being built into party walls without properly protected ends.
4. Heights of chimneys being insufficient.
5. Hearths being insufficient in size.

Legislation is being introduced to improve standards of building generally, and the Thermal Insulation (Industrial Buildings) Act, 1957, has been brought into operation to give higher standards of insulation for factory type buildings.

House designs generally have been influenced by the introduction of cedar boarding and faced stonework, and by the introduction of underfloor electrical heating. In the plumbing field the use of polythene tubing has in the main superseded lead and copper for cold water services, and a ball valve of completely new design which has been developed by the Building Research Station has been introduced on to the market with good results.

Higher standards of living has resulted in a greater demand for electrical appliances such as washing machines, refrigerators, T.V. sets, etc.

Estate development is now taking place with private houses having only one solid fuel burning appliance and underfloor electric heating throughout the whole of the ground floor.

			1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Plans submitted under Building Bye-laws			248	306	345	413	533	560
New dwellings erected	..	..	52	99	82	142	195	240

2. Council Housing

				Existing Council Houses	Applications
1.	Almondsbury and Patchway	..	..	530	212
2.	Redwick and Northwick, Aust and Olveston			130	38
3.	Thornbury, Alveston, Rangeworthy, Tytherington and Oldbury-on-Severn	..	..	430	104
4.	Falfield, Stone, Tortworth, Charfield, Cromhall, Ham, Hill, Rockhampton and Alkington	..	..	162	43
5.	Berkeley, Hinton, Hamfallow	..	..	300	63
				<hr/> 1552	<hr/> 460

Number of houses owned by the Council	..	..	..	1515
Houses erected during the year	..	..	..	37
No. of houses at 31.12.59	..	..	..	<hr/>1552

The department is responsible for the maintenance of 1552 houses owned by the Council with the Housing Manager being responsible for the day to day repairs of houses in the Parishes of Almondsbury, Redwick and Northwick and Pilning:— 271.

During the year the following works were carried out:—

Houses Painted	..	..	..	352
Orders issued for day to day repairs	..	..	..	1257
Replacement of sinks	..	..	..	141
Hot water systems installed	..	..	..	16
Coal utilisation type firegrates installed	..	..	..	74

The electrical installations in pre-war council houses are now considered to be well below present day standards. During the year a thorough inspection of all installations was carried out by a qualified electrician. Some 65 houses were found to be so far below standard as to require re-wiring. This work is being put in hand. A periodic inspection of this nature is most important, and I cannot overstress the advantages which accrue.

During the year the Council engaged additional labour to increase the strength of the mobile team and acquired a Ransome Vergecutter mowing machine. This resulted in an improved standard of maintenance of the grass verges and open spaces on housing sites.

The arrangements for the regular emptying of cesspits was continued and has proved to be very satisfactory. Complaints of over flowing cesspits have now been reduced to a negligible number.

3. Housing Programme and Slum Clearance

					Council Houses completed in 1959
Units for Slum Clearance	..	..	..	..	26
Units for Central Electricity Generating Board	..				17
					—
					43
					—

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

A. Houses Demolished

					Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced
In Clearance Areas	..	..	..	..	Nil	28
Not in Clearance Areas	..	..	..	..	9	27

B. Unfit Houses Closed

Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35 (1) Housing Act, 1957	..	..	..	..	13	23
Under Sections 17(3), and 26, Housing Act, 1957					Nil	Nil
Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	..	..	..	..	Nil	Nil

C. Unfit Houses made fit and Houses in which defects were remedied

After informal action by Local Authority	..				2	Nil
After formal notice under						
(a) Public Health Acts	..	..	..	..	Nil	Nil
(b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957	..				1	Nil
Under Sections 24 and 27 Housing Act, 1957	..				8	Nil

D. Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Act, 1957)

Retained for temporary accommodation :-							No. of Houses
(a) Under Section 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
(b) Under Section 3	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
(c) Under Section 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Licensed for temporary accommodation under Section 6							.. Nil

E. Purchase of Houses by Agreement

Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased in the year Nil

4. Improvements Grants. Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958,S.30.

New legislation became operative on the 14th June, and introduced an entirely new system of 'Standard' Improvement Grants for the installation of five amenities, i.e. Water Closet, Bath, Wash-hand Basin, Hot Water System and Food Store.

The effect of this and the earlier Discretionary Grant is having an important effect on the general housing standards throughout the District. With the availability of mains water throughout the District and the possibility of further new sewerage schemes, the Council can look forward to the time when it will be possible for the majority of the houses in the District to be provided with the essential amenities.

I personally feel that every encouragement should be offered to the individual owners to take advantage of one or other of these schemes.

The number of applications dealt with and approved during the year are as follows :—

Discretionary Improvement Grants	..	..	..	43
Standard Improvement Grants	..	..	..	51
Total Number of Discretionary Improvement Grants to Date	..			267

The Council has continued the practice whereby a Grant of 50% of the cost of providing improvements is advanced to the owners of private houses.

WATER SUPPLIES

The Rural District is within the statutory area of supply of three Water Undertakings :—

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| (a) Northern Water Scheme which covers six Parishes in the north of the district and is served by the Gloucester Corporation. | } Now the Bristol Waterworks Company. |
| (b) Southern and Central Water Scheme which covers the whole of the central area and a portion of the south of the district and is served by the West Gloucestershire Water Company. | |
| (c) A small area in the south-west comprising parts of the two parishes of Almondsbury and Redwick and Northwick and is served by the Bristol Waterworks Co. | |

On the Minister's instructions schemes are afoot for the re-grouping of water undertakings. Various Statutory Water Authorities in the northern half of the County of Gloucestershire are likely to be re-grouped into one Water Board. In the south the West Gloucestershire Water Company has been taken over by the Bristol Waterworks Co.

The Southern and Central Water Scheme is complete apart from certain outstanding future trunk mains which will require to be laid where demand warrants it. From time to time during the year short lengths of branch mains have been laid in accordance with the agreement to serve various small groups of new development. The water supplies position in the Thornbury Rural District is indicated in a schedule.

WATER SUPPLY POSITION IN THE THORNBURY RURAL DISTRICT

Bristol Waterworks Co.

					No. of Properties	No. of Properties
					supplied with	mains water
Almondsbury	..	..	..	..	950	930
Alveston	..	..	..	..	553	540
Aust	..	..	..	..	127	99
Charfield	..	..	..	..	260	192
Cromhall	..	..	..	..	255	161
Falfield	..	..	..	..	149	109
Oldbury	..	..	..	..	173	107
Olveston	..	..	..	..	422	409
Patchway	..	..	..	..	1885	1862
Rangeworthy	..	..	..	..	93	63
Redwick and Northwick	..	..	..	..	610	586
Rockhampton	..	..	..	..	49	26
Thornbury	..	..	..	..	1069	1030
Tortworth	..	..	..	..	57	27
Tytherington	..	..	..	..	181	172

Gloucester Water Corporation

Alkington	..	..	..	..	210	180
Berkeley	..	..	..	..	430	404
Hamfallow	..	..	..	..	301	228
Hinton	..	..	..	..	458	391
Ham and Stone	..	..	..	..	191	123
Hill	..	..	..	..	40	11

WATER SAMPLING

Properties not provided with supplies of mains water in general obtain water from shallow wells which are of varying quality and quantity, but there are a few provided with private bore holes from which the supplies are generally satisfactory. In my opening remarks I have referred to the difficulties which have been experienced and which have resulted in our inability to make a concerted drive to secure the maximum number of connections to the public supplies.

Analyses of public water supplies are described in an appropriate schedule.

During the year three samples of water were obtained from wells and submitted for analysis. In two cases the supplies were in connection with proposals to erect new dwellings in consequence of which the building proposals were not proceeded with and in the other case the supply was concerned with an unfit property which has now been demolished.

12 samples of water were obtained from the Blue Lagoon Swimming Bath at Severn Beach. The Bacteriologist's report on the first group of samples indicated unsatisfactory results. The owner after consultations with this department and the bacteriologist made certain alterations to the purification plant which resulted in the remainder of the samples being satisfactory.

ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES

A — Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board.

B — Bristol Waterworks Company.

						Parts per million	
						A	B
Chemical Examination :							
Total Solids	..	..	..	..	..	205	425
Loss on Ignition	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Mineral Matter	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Alkalinity (as CaCO ₃)	..	..	..	..	..	105	270
Total Hardness:-	..	..	..	..	..	129	345
(a) Permanent	..	..	..	..	..	59	75
(b) Temporary	..	..	..	..	..	70	270
Chlorine (as Chloride)	..	..	..	..	..	27	18
Nitrogen as saline and free Ammonia	..	..	..	..	..	0.01	0.0
Nitrogen as Albuminoid Ammonia	..	..	..	..	..	0.07	0.0
Nitrogen as Nitrates	..	..	..	..	..	1.77	2.8
Nitrogen as Nitrites	..	..	..	..	..	0.001	Absent
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate	..	..	..	..	..	0.85	0.30
Poisonous Metals	..	..	..	..	..	0.13	Nil
Free Carbon Dioxide	..	..	..	..	..	—	30
Silica	..	..	..	..	..	5.7	14
Residual Chlorine	..	..	..	..	..	Nil	0.08
Bacteriological Examination :							
After 2 days at 37°C	..	..	..	..	..	3	0
After 3 days at 22°C	..	..	..	..	..	—	0
Pres. coli count.	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Faecal coli count.	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Esch. coli.	..	..	..	..	..	—	—

SCHEDULE OF SEWAGE PLANTS AND SEWERS

Parish	Situation	Sewage Plant(Ty)pe	Properties	Served	Remarks
ALKINGTON	Newport	Sewage Plant	11		Council Estate
	"Svan Inn" (P.H.)	Sewage Plant	5		Public House
ALMONDSBURY	Marshall Crescent	Sewage Plant	14		Council Estate
	Hallen	Sewage Plant	22		Council Estate
	Easter Compton	Sewage Plant	18		Council Estate
	Woodlands	Sewage Works	1		Caravan Park
	Cribbs Causeway	Sewage Plant	1		Public House
	Hortham Hospital	Sewage Works	1		Mental Institution
	Woodhouse Down	Sewage Works	42		Council Estate
	Gloucester Road	Sewage Plant	1		Hospital
	Parish	Sewers	412		Sewered 1959
	"Silverhill"	Sewage Plant	1		Private School
BERKELEY	Parish	Sewage Works	399		Sewered 1956
	Manor Lane	Sewage Plant	10		Council Estate
	Village	Old Sewer	20		New Scheme approved
	Townwell	Sewage Plant	14		Council Estate
	"The Huntsman," F'field	Sewage Plant	1		Public House
CROMHALL	Sundays Hill	Sewage Plant	14		Council Estate
	Eastwood Park	Sewage Plant	1		Home Office School
	Wanswell	Sewers	60		New scheme approved
	Stone	Sewage Plant	18		Council Estate
	Sharpness	Sewers	350		Sewered 1953
HINTON	Purton	Old Sewers	20		Fouling Ditches
	Oldown	Sewage Plant	11		Council Estate
	Olveston & Tockington	Old Sewers	50		Discharges to ditches-New Scheme pro'd
	Parish	Sewers	1880		Joint sewerage Committee
	Berrowsmead	Sewage Plant	4		Council Estate
ROCKHAMPTON	Church View	Sewage Plant	4		Council Estate
	Sewern Beach	Ejector Station	298		Sewered 1953
	Vicarage Road	Sewage Plant	76		Private estate
	Wick Road	Sewage Plant	18		Council Estate
	Parish	Sewage Works	1060		Enlarged 1955
REDWICK & NORTHWICK	Leyhill Prison	Sewage Plant	70		H.Q. Prison and Warders Quarters
	School	Sewage Plant	1		School
	Southlands	Sewage Plant	28		Council Estate
THORNBURY					
TORTWORTH					
TYTHERINGTON					

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Topography

The lower tidal reaches of the River Severn form the western boundary of the Rural District. The major portion of the district is within the Severn Catchment Area with a small portion in the south-west corner of the district coming within the Bristol Avon Catchment Area.

The principal watercourse in the District is the Little Avon River, rising at Wickwar (Sodbury R.D.) which passes through Charfield, Tortworth, Alkington, Ham and Stone, eventually discharging via the tidal pill at Berkeley into the River Severn. A large part of the district bordering the River Severn, is low lying and is drained by rhines. These rhines are maintained by the South Gloucestershire Internal Drainage Board.

General Conditions

Sewers at Sharpness discharge untreated sewage into an old culvert which has an outfall into the tidal reaches of the River Severn.

Untreated sewage from the sewers at Severn Beach is discharged by ejectors into the low tidal reaches of the River Severn.

The old sewer at Charfield discharges small quantities of untreated sewage into the River Avon. This will be remedied upon the completion of the joint sewerage scheme for Charfield and Wotton-under-Edge.

As the result of lack of sewerage facilities, foul ditches exist in the following parishes :—

Alkington (Newport)
Aust
Almondsbury
Olveston
Redwick and Northwick

Hinton (Purton)
Hamfallow (Wanswell, Halmore)
Ham and Stone
Berkeley
Thornbury

Drainage and Sewerage

A list of public and privately owned drainage schemes and sewage plants form part of and is attached to this report.

The Alveston sewerage scheme is nearing completion. The Charfield sewerage scheme has been commenced. It is designed to pump sewage up to a new sewage works in the Dursley Rural District.

The Ministry's decision is awaited in connection with the following sewerage schemes, which have been prepared by the Council's consulting engineers (Messrs. John Taylor and Sons) :—

Thornbury (extensions and additions)
Olveston/Tockington
Almondsbury
Wanswell

During the course of the year it became noticeable that the Severn Beach sewerage scheme was not capable of retaining the sewage for the full period between high tides. As the result of these conditions coupled with the growing demand for housing development in the Redwick and Severn Beach area, the Council has instructed the Consulting Engineers to prepare a scheme for foul and storm water sewerage of the area. It is worth noting that this is the first occasion upon which the Council has had to have serious regard to the provision of storm water drainage. I think it possible, in view of the fairly extensive development which is forecast for the district that the Council will need to pay more attention in the future to the possible need of providing storm water sewers.

All the Council owned sewage plants are maintained by direct labour. Four workmen are employed at three of the principal sewage plants as static workers. The other plants are serviced by a mobile team of 3 men operating with a Land Rover and a recently acquired trailer which was purchased for the purpose of transporting the grass cutting machines. In general all the plants are well maintained.

The Council undertakes the emptying of bucket closets in the Parish of Hamfallow and from a few properties in Berkeley.

In previous reports I have made reference to the unsatisfactory methods of collection and the Council has now adopted a scheme whereby the bucket closet contents are collected by a tanker lorry fitted with a special attachment.

Throughout the district cesspits and, where necessary, sewage tanks are emptied by private arrangements with two firms which operate in the district. The contents are removed by vacuum tank vehicles. The contents of cesspits serving Council Houses are conveyed to the Council's sewage works, and the contents of cesspits serving private houses are in general disposed of on agricultural land.

PUBLIC CLEANSING—COLLECTION

A combined collection of refuse and salvage is operated throughout the district by direct labour.

The service is operated by : —

- 1 Foreman Driver
- 4 Driver Loaders
- 7 Loaders
- 2 Refuse tip attendants
- 2 Paper baling attendants
- 3 Mobile sewage works attendants.

The fleet consists of : —

- 2 16/18 cu.yd. Fore and Aft type rear loading Shelvoke and Drewry lorries, Registered March, 1958 and 1959, with diesel engines.
- 2 10 cu. yd. Dennis side loading lorries. Registered 1945 and 1949. Petrol engines.
- 2 11 cu.yd. Ford side loading lorries. Registered 1950. Petrol engines.
- 1 Land Rover. Registered 1950. Petrol engine.

During the year there has been a noticeable increase in the volume of refuse collected. The present cleansing staff is fully extended and it is quite clear that with the present continuing trends coupled with the continued development of the district that additional labour will have to be obtained.

PUBLIC CLEANSING—DISPOSAL

A further difficulty has arisen concerning the disposal of refuse in the southern part of the district. After several years of negotiations and discussions the Council eventually rejected the proposal to acquire a disused limestone quarry at Greenhill, Alveston.

A Sub-Committee has investigated possible disposal sites, but to date it has not been possible to secure a site with reasonable capacity. The Council is proceeding to negotiate for the acquisition of sites for disposal at Oldbury-on-Severn, Redwick and Awkley, but in the meantime, we are having to make do with a small quarry at Shellards Lane, Alveston, and disposal in depressions in various agricultural land. I cannot stress too strongly the urgent need of acquiring adequate tipping facilities.

In the northern part of the district the Council has proceeded to acquire the disused clay pits at Oakhunger, Berkeley, which we have previously rented and this coupled with the facilities which farmers have afforded us, is likely to solve our disposal problems in this part of the district for many years to come.

SALVAGE

Due to the pressure of work on the collectors it has frequently been found necessary to reinforce the collection crews by the transfer of labour from the paper baling operations and sewage works attendance. In consequence of this it has not always been possible to deal with the volume of collected waste paper which has become available, and this has resulted in a loss of revenue.

		1957			1958			1959		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Paper	..	1947	18	7	1702	4	8	1262	7	3
Rags	..	195	2	4	159	3	5	179	3	5
Metals	..	265	1	4	236	4	4	225	14	0
		<hr/>			<hr/>			<hr/>		
		2408	2	3	2097	12	5	1667	14	8
		<hr/>			<hr/>			<hr/>		

FREQUENCY OF REFUSE COLLECTION

Parish		Place	Frequency
Almondsbury	..	Main Road, Knole Park	Weekly
		Lower Almondsbury	Twice Monthly
		Easter Compton	Twice Monthly
		Cribbs Causeway, etc.	Twice Monthly
		Hallen	Monthly
Alkington	.. ..	Whole Parish	Monthly
Alveston	.. ..	Whole Parish	Twice Monthly
Aust	.. ..	Whole Parish	Monthly
Berkeley	.. ..	Whole Parish	Weekly
Charfield	.. ..	Whole Parish	Twice Monthly
Cromhall	.. ..	Part Parish	Monthly
		Part Parish	Twice Monthly
Falfield	.. ..	Whole Parish	Monthly
Hamfallow	.. ..	Whole Parish	Monthly
Ham & Stone	.. ..	Whole Parish	Monthly
Hill	.. ..	Whole Parish	Monthly
Hinton	.. ..	Whole Parish	Weekly
Oldbury	.. ..	Whole Parish	Monthly
Olveston	.. ..	Whole Parish	Twice Monthly
Patchway	.. ..	Whole Parish	Weekly
Rangeworthy	.. ..	Whole Parish	Monthly
Redwick & Northwick..		Redwick & Sev. Beach	Weekly
		Northwick	Monthly
Thornbury	.. ..	Lighting Area	Weekly
		Other parts	Monthly
Tortworth	.. ..	Whole parish	Monthly
Tytherington	.. ..	Whole parish	Monthly

CAMPING

A considerable amount of camping continues to take place in the district. Thirteen licensed sites and four sites with individual caravan licences provide accommodation for approximately 600 units. The majority of these consist of permanently stationed trailer caravans. Huts and chalets are gradually being replaced by this type of accommodation.

There continues to be numerous individual caravans stationed on odd sites throughout the district. Generally the number has not been increased. The standard on all sites has been reasonably well maintained.

Thirteen new applications were granted for the stationing of single caravans on individual sites throughout the district during the year. Many of these applications were for the temporary use of a site while structural improvements to a particular property were carried out. In the case of single sites generally the public health aspect was considered reasonably good, although additional improvements could be made.

During the latter part of the year a higher standard of requirements was adopted for new applications, and it is intended that these improved standards will be applied to the existing sites on their application for renewal of the licence in March 1960.

The position regarding some of the major camping sites, in particular those containing a large number of chalets, cannot be considered satisfactory.

In certain cases site owners appear disinterested in improving or even maintaining the present inadequate sanitary facilities on the sites. Every year difficulties are experienced in getting the premises vacated during the months of December, January and February and some new approach to this problem must be considered and implemented in the forthcoming year.

During November Sir Arton Wilson's report entitled " Caravans as Homes " was published. This report dealt in considerable detail with every aspect and use of caravans, and it is hoped that next year his recommendations will be embodied in new legislation.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

Meat and Food Inspection :

During the year it has been possible to continue a 100% inspection of all animals killed in the three slaughterhouses, but to achieve this it has necessitated a certain amount of overtime being worked, principally on Sundays.

The total number of animals killed has risen considerably over the previous year, with the number of lambs slaughtered rising by 100% and cattle by 32.0%.

The amount of time spent in maintaining this 100% inspection continues to increase, and can now be said to be occupying the full time services of one Inspector.

During the year there was introduced the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations. We have now legislation with which we can hope to achieve a higher standard of food hygiene in the future. Discussions are taking place with the persons concerned for the implementation of the requirements of these Regulations.

No. of Licensed Slaughterhouses in regular use	..	3
No. of Licensed Slaughterhouses	.. .. .	3
No. of Licensed Slaughtermen	.. .. .	22

ANNUAL RETURN OF SLAUGHTERING

Carcases Inspected		Cattle exc. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	.. ..	674	429	83	2323	4406	—
Number Inspected	..	674	429	83	2323	4406	—
Carcases Condemned (All diseases except Tuberculosis)							
Whole Carcases condemned		—	5	4	5	5	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	.. ..	96	117	3	229	486	—
Percentage of Carcases inspected affected with disease (other than Tuberculosis)	.. ..	13.4	27.3	3.4	9.8	11.1	—
Tuberculosis only :							
Whole carcasses condemned		—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	.. ..	—	7	—	—	149	—
Percentage of carcasses affected with Tuberculosis	.. ..	1.3	1.6	—	—	3.3	—
Cysticercosis :							
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	.. ..	7	1	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	.. ..	7	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of carcasses affected with Cysticercosis		1.0	.23	—	—	—	—

Cysticercosis Bovis :

During the year eight cysts were found in seven bullocks and heifers and one cow. In the majority of cases the cysts were degenerated and only single ones found in each carcase. The affected organs etc. were condemned and the carcase and remaining offal placed in cold storage for the requisite period. This total represents a considerable increase over previous years.

Unsound Food :

During the year the following weight of meat and other foods were inspected and condemned as being unfit for human consumption :—

Meat :

Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	2,272	lb.
Other Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	7,617	lb.

Other Foods :

Kippers	..	..	..	..	..	196	lb.
Ham	..	..	..	..	..	12	lb.
Poultry	..	..	..	..	..	5½	lb.
Tinned Meat	..	..	..	..	..	84	lb.
Peaches	..	..	..	..	..	30	lb.
Salmon	..	..	..	..	..	1	lb.
Milk (tinned)	..	..	..	..	..	14	lb.
Cockles	..	..	..	..	..	86	Gals

Ice Cream :

A total number of thirty-four samples were taken during the year, thirty-two of which were satisfactory.

Food Preparation and Handling :

The various food premises in the district are listed below :—

1. Registered Premises

Preserved Food	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Ice Cream Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	123
Dairies Registered under Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949							16
							———— 160

2. Unregistered Premises.

Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	60
Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Hotels and Licensed Premises				..	..	..	63
Cafes	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
							———— 176
							————
						TOTAL :	336
							————

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

During the year a further series of visits were made to food premises to secure compliance with these Regulations. Generally it was found that although the standard of food hygiene in the majority of premises was reasonably good, the premises were deficient in a number of structural facilities required by these Regulations.

Discussions have taken place between the individual occupiers who, generally speaking, have co-operated in meeting our requirements to improve the premises. The following table lists the improvements effected to date :—

No. of new wash basins provided	..	..	..	..	15
No. of new sinks provided	..	..	..	..	9
No. of fitments provided with hot and cold water	..	..	..	..	24
No. of fitments provided with trapped waste pipe	..	..	..	..	22
No. of rooms where ceilings and walls improved	..	..	..	..	27
No. of rooms where floors repaired or improved	..	..	..	..	10
No. of rooms decorated	..	..	..	..	33
No. of rooms where new floor covering provided	..	..	..	..	11
No. of premises where new equipment provided	..	..	..	..	8
No. of premises where glass screening provided	..	..	..	..	4
No. of refrigerators provided	..	..	..	..	6
Other defects remedied	..	..	..	..	21

Licensed Premises :

A large number of these premises must still be considered unsatisfactory as regards the facilities and methods of food hygiene, and the totally inadequate sanitary accommodation provided for customers of both sexes. In many cases separate conveniences are still not provided for the sexes, with the urinal accommodation most primitive and unhygienic.

A survey has been carried out of the majority of licensed premises within the area, and the various Brewery Companies informed. It is hoped that this coming year will see major improvements to some of the premises.

The following table lists the improvements carried out to date :—

No. of new W.C. Basins fixed	..	..	..	..	2
No. of new glazed urinal stalls fixed	..	..	..	..	4
No. of sanitary conveniences decorated	..	..	..	..	8
No. of conveniences provided with electric lighting	..	..	..	..	2
No. of beer cellars redecorated	..	..	..	..	1

Milk :

During the year it has been possible to increase the number of samples of milk submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Bristol. The type of milk consumed in this area appears at the moment to be equally divided between raw T.T. milk and Pasteurised, with a very small quantity of Sterilised also being sold. It would appear that the public demand for pasteurised milk is increasing, and it is hoped that this trend will continue.

A total of 100 samples of milk were taken during the year, as shown in the following table :—

Bacteriological Examination:

(a) Tuberculin Tested Milk

No. of samples taken	..	..	..	..	..	22
No. of samples which satisfied the Methylene Blue Test	..	..	..	..	..	17

(b) **Pasteurised Milk**

No. of samples taken	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
No. of samples which satisfied the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase Test	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15

(c) **Sterilised Milk**

No. of samples taken	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
No. of samples found satisfactory	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

(d) **Other Milk**

No. of samples taken	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
No. of samples found satisfactory	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

Chemical Examination :

(e) No. of samples taken	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
No. of samples found satisfactory	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7

Biological Examination :

(f) No. of samples taken	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50
No. of samples found positive for Tubercle Bacilli	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
No. of samples found positive for Brucella Abortus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

In all cases of unsatisfactory samples, follow-up samples taken within a few days of notification were found to be satisfactory.

The Milk & Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, Section 20

During the year a sample of Tuberculin Tested Milk obtained from a Producer/Retailer in Thornbury was found to contain Brucella Abortus organisms.

It was found necessary to serve notice under the above section prohibiting the sale of this milk until it had been pasteurised. Individual samples of milk were obtained from the cows forming this herd, which proved negative. It is possible that the animal responsible was one of the two cows that had been withdrawn from the herd for calving. We have been informd by the producer that he intends continuing to have all his milk pasteurised.

Dairy Farms in District	..	..	..	..	419
Number of T.T. Herds	..	..	..	..	314
Percentage of T.T. Supplies	..	..	..	..	74.9%

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

In January 1959 we commenced a system of contracts for agricultural and business premises due in part to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, terminating their contract service.

During the twelve months your Rodent Officer has signed seven business and nineteen agricultural contracts for a total annual sum of £222 18s. 0d.

This has involved a total number of 225 visits to the premises under contract, commencing with the initial survey of the particular

premises and followed by regular re-inspections at approximately six-weekly intervals. By this regular method of inspection and treatment it is possible to keep any rat or mice infestation to a minimum.

It is gratifying to report that for the first time since records have been kept that a complete clearance of rat infestation of sewers was attained.

The prolonged hot dry summer brought many difficulties, with a large number of complaints of fly infestations. A total number of 34 wasps nests and 51 cluster fly infestations were successfully dealt with.

REPORT FOR NINE MONTHS ENDING 31/12/1959

This period to coincide with the Statutory returns.

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	All Other	Total of Cols. 1, 2 and 3	Agriculture
	1	2	3	4	5
1. Total No. of properties in Local Authority's district	21	7616	1183	8820	530
2. No. of properties inspected as a result of :					
(a) Notification	—	77	11	88	13
(b) Survey under the Act ..	34	156	85	275	55
(c) Otherwise	21	231	24	276	9
3. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	135	502	131	768	102
4. No. of properties inspected (in Sec. 2) which were found to be infested by:—					
(a) Rats					
Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	5	92	25	122	27
(b) Mice					
Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	23	3	26	1
5. No. of infested properties (in Sec. 4 treated by the L.A. (figures not to exceed Sec. 4)	5	113	23	141	17
6. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	6	116	25	147	22
7. No. of notices served under Section 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
8. No. of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
9. Legal proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
10. No. of "Block" control schemes carried out	—	—	—	—	—

CONTRACTS

Report for twelve months.

	Business Premises	Agricul- tural	Total
No. of contracts signed during past 12 months ..			
(a) Short term	—	1	1
(b) Annual	7	19	26
Total No. of properties under annual contract to Council to date	7	19	26
Total Value of Annual Contracts	—	—	£221 18s 0d
No. of annual contracts expired and not renewed during past twelve months	—	—	—

OTHER DETAILS

Details and figures for sewer treatments are not included in the above totals. Tests and maintenance treatments in all the sewerage systems were continued during 1959 and for the first time since records were kept a complete clearance of rat infestation was attained in all sewers.

Contract work which commenced during January 1959 involved a total number of 225 visits.

FACTORIES ACT 1937 & 1948

(1) Inspections for the purpose of provision as to health

Premises	No. of Premises	Inspections	No. of Notices	Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	15	7	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	76	92	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	3	—	—	—
TOTAL	94	99	—	—

(2) Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	No. of cases in which defects were found	
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	1
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	2	2	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	7	7	—	1

OUTWORK (Section 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110(1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Carding of buttons, etc.	7	—	—	—	—	—
Glove making	3	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	10	—	—	—	—	—

Nailsworth Urban District Council

Chairman :

Dr. M. H. DANIELS, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

M. G. SMITH, Esq.

Clerk of the Council :

R. D. CLARKE, Esq.

Councillors :

M. W. Baker, Esq.	Dr. A. B. Pavey-Smith, M.C.
G. M. D. Chamberlain, Esq.	E. W. Searing, Esq.
R. J. Davis, Esq.	W. S. Wilson, Esq.
J. M. Evans, Esq.	

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

Chairman :

W. S. WILSON, Esq.

Vice-Chairman:

Dr. M. H. DANIELS, J.P.

All other members of the Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

W. J. DOUGLAS COOPER, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector :

A. DENMAN, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., from the 1st February, 1959.

Additional Public Health Inspector :

H. HALL, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., to 23rd October, 1959.

Rodent Officer :

H. H. GOODINGS to February, 1959.

J. H. R. MATTHEWS from April, 1959.

Clerk :

MRS. E. P. MALPAS.

PART I

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,598
Population (1951 Census)	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,523
Population (Registrar General 1959)	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,720
Number of inhabited houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,158
Rateable value	..	..	..	..	..	..	£40,275
Sum represented by a penny rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	£141

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

					M.	F.	Total
					23	22	45
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	23	21	44
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 mid year Home Population	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.09
Birth Rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 Home Population	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.5
Comparability Factor for Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.09
Corrected Birth Rate for Nailsworth U.D.	..	..	..	..	..	..	13.17
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.2%

Still Births

					M.	F.	Total
					—	—	Nil
Total Live and Still Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	45
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Still Births, England and Wales, per 1,000 total Live & Still Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	21.0

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE Nil

Infant Mortality Rates

Total Infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Legitimate Infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Illegitimate Infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) England and Wales	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.8
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) England and Wales	..	..	..	..	..	..	34.2

Maternal Mortality (including Abortion)

Number of Deaths	.. .. .	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	.. .. .	Nil

TOTAL DEATHS IN NAILSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT	..	37
(22 of these were Males and 15 were Females)		

Average Age of Male Deaths in District	.. .. .	66.7 years
Average Age of Female Deaths in District	.. .. .	71.5 years
Average Age of all Deaths in Nailsworth Urban District	..	68.6 years
Death Rate, England and Wales, per 1.000 Home Population	..	11.6
Crude Death Rate for Nailsworth Urban District per 1.000 estimated mid-year population	.. .. .	9.9
Comparability Factor for Deaths	.. .. .	0.83
Therefore Corrected Death Rate	.. .. .	= 8.21

There was only one outward transferable death to another district during the year, and there were 15 inward transferable deaths from other districts during the year.

CAUSES OF DEATHS

	Under	1 yr.	1-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-	Total
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Malignant neoplasm of stomach	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm of lung & bronchus	—	—	—	1	—	2	2	—	—	5
Malignant neoplasm of breast	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm of uterus	..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	3
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	—	—	—	—	3	4	1	—	8
Coronary disease, angina	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	3
Hypertension with heart disease	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Other heart disease	—	—	—	1	3	—	4
Other circulatory disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza	—	—	1	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	—	2	2	—	4
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other diseases of respiratory system	..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Motor vehicle accidents	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
All other accidents	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—
Homicide and operations of war	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total										37

MOST COMMON CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1959

(i) Cancer	..	..	..	..	..	..	9 cases
(ii) Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 cases
(iii) Vascular Intracranial Lesions	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 cases
(iv) Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 cases

There were no neo-natal deaths during the year and no maternal deaths.

LONGEVITY TABLE

Age Group					Males	Females	Total
0—5 years	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
5—10 „	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
10—20 „	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
20—30 „	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
30—40 „	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
40—50 „	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
50—60 „	..	..	..	..	4	2	6
60—70 „	..	..	..	..	4	1	5
70—80 „	..	..	..	..	8	5	13
80—90 „	..	..	..	..	2	5	7
90—100 „	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
Totals					22	15	37

The oldest age at death was a female aged 93 years.

MONTHS OF THE YEAR IN WHICH DEATHS TOOK PLACE

Month	No. of Deaths
January	7
February	4
March	4
April	—
May	5
June	4
July	2
August	3
September	2
October	2
November	3
December	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN AGE GROUPS

DISEASE	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5—9 years	10—14 years	15—24 years	25 years and over	Age unknown	TOTAL
Dysentery	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	3	—	8
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Measles	1	5	6	5	2	20	2	—	1	—	42
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Whooping Cough	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	3
TOTAL											60

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

The following Immunisations and Vaccinations have been carried out within the District during 1959 by General Practitioners and Local Authority Doctors :—

No. of Children who completed a full course of primary immunisation

	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	Total
G.P. ..	106(53)	16(6)	4(—)	—(—)	—(—)	—(—)	—(—)	126(59)
L.A. ..	13	4	2	2	2	—	—	23

No. of Children who received a re-inforcing dose

	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	Total
G.P. ..	—	—	—(—)	—(—)	6(2)	8(2)	4(2)	18(6)
L.A. ..	—	—	1	1	18	123	—	143

Note.—Figures in Brackets denote Combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough injections included in totals.

VACCINATION — SMALLPOX

	Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	15 years & over	Total
Primary	40	—	1	3	3	47
Re-Vaccination ..	—	—	—	1	2	3

VACCINATION — WHOOPING COUGH

	Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-14 years	Total
Whooping Cough Vaccination ..	30	1	2	—	33
Combined Diphtheria / Whooping Cough Prophylaxis obtained by & given by General Practitioners)	53	6	2	4	65

TUBERCULOSIS

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis during the year and 19 cases remain on the Register. Two new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified and there was one pulmonary transfer into the district.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47

Removal of Persons in need of care and attention to suitable premises

No cases arose during the year calling for action under this Act.

INTERNATIONAL VACCINATION CERTIFICATES

During the year 33 International Vaccination Certificates were signed by the General Practitioners in this district and were stamped and countersigned by me.

PART II

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR AND CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Madam Chairman, Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to present my first Annual Report to you and in this connection I should like to thank the Medical Officer of Health, not only for his advice and support through my initiation year, but also for allowing me to submit a separate report of the year's working.

I greatly appreciate the support given to me unstintingly by all members of the Council and by all of the staff including those not employed in my department.

The volume of work undertaken by this Department is greatly increasing due to the fact that although small, this is an efficient and progressive local authority. Despite the fact that you were without the services of one or other of your inspectors for over three months of the year the number of visits made is an all-time record. With only two qualified officers it has been a great strain at times to try to carry out all the duties undertaken by this department, especially in providing a one hundred per cent meat inspection service, in an efficient manner and without causing undue delay as far as the public was concerned. However, the steps you took at the end of the year to employ two Additional Public Health Inspectors should ease this problem and I look forward to the ensuing year for another year of real progress in public health and other work.

I am, Madam Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. DENMAN.

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS MADE DURING THE YEAR

Houses inspected under the Housing Acts and Public Health Act	..	112
Houses inspected re Certificates of Disrepair	.. .. .	3
Re-inspection of houses	.. .. .	295
Visits to slaughterhouses	.. .. .	399
Visits to food shops	.. .. .	44
Visits to cafes	.. .. .	4
Visits to ice cream and preserved foods premises	.. .. .	10
Visits to dairies	.. .. .	2
Visits to factories and bakehouses	.. .. .	15
Visits to factories re means of escape in case of fire	.. .. .	5
Visits to cases of infectious disease	.. .. .	10
Visits to petroleum stores	.. .. .	5
Visits re drainage of buildings	.. .. .	39
Visits re public sewers	.. .. .	15
Visits re storm water	.. .. .	10
Visits re offensive accumulations	.. .. .	3
Visits re atmospheric pollution	.. .. .	4
Inspection of public conveniences	.. .. .	37
Visits re water supplies	.. .. .	12
Visits to sample water	.. .. .	45
Visits re refuse collection	.. .. .	3
Visits to schools	.. .. .	2
Visits to sample ice cream and milk	.. .. .	24
Visits to sample food	.. .. .	2
Miscellaneous public health visits	.. .. .	16
Visits re discretionary improvement grants	.. .. .	36
Visits re standard grants	.. .. .	2
Visits to council house applicants	.. .. .	19
Visits to council owned buildings	.. .. .	525
Visits re highways	.. .. .	316
Visits to playing fields	.. .. .	15
Visits re building byelaws	.. .. .	218
Visits re town planning	.. .. .	41
Visits re erection of council houses	.. .. .	110
Visits re street lighting	.. .. .	17
Miscellaneous surveying visits	.. .. .	46
		<hr/> 2461 <hr/>

LIAISON WITH OUTSIDE AUTHORITIES

Whilst I am happy to record continuing beneficial co-operation with all neighbouring local authorities and their officers, we are particularly indebted to the Gloucestershire County Council, Stroud Urban District Council and Dursley Rural District Council for relief meat inspection duties undertaken by them when one of this Council's inspectors was not available.

In addition every assistance has been given us from all the following :—

1. The Public Analyst for the City of Bristol.
2. The Director of the Public Health Laboratory, Bristol.
3. H.M. Inspector of Factories.
4. The Fire Prevention Officers of the Gloucestershire County Council.
5. The Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

HOUSING

Private Houses

A. Statutory Action

1. **Clearance Areas.** None were made.
2. **Individual unfit houses.** An undertaking was accepted in respect of one house and Closing Orders were made on three houses.
3. **Procedure under the Public Health Act, 1936.** No statutory action was taken during the year.
4. **Certificates of Disrepair.** There were two applications for Certificates of Disrepair. The first was not proceeded with as the tenant died and the house was offered for sale with vacant possession. In the other case the Council were considering it at the end of the year.

B. Informal Action

1. **Housing Acts.** A verbal Undertaking was accepted in the case of one unfit house.
2. **Public Health Act.** Seven informal notices were served and all except one had been complied with by the end of the year.

C. Improvement Grants

Despite numerous enquiries by owners to the Office and 38 visits to houses, actual applications proceeded with were as follows :

Number of formal applications and approvals for discretionary grants	4
Number of formal applications and approvals for standard grants	.. 1
Amount promised for discretionary grants	.. .. .. £1,014
Amount promised for standard grant	.. .. .. £155

There were signs, however, at the end of the year that public interest was quickening with regard to grants.

D. Erection of houses by private enterprise

Three new houses were completed during the year and fourteen were under construction at the 31st December, 1959. Again there were indications that more private houses were likely to be constructed during the ensuing year.

COUNCIL HOUSES

A. General

As can be seen from the summary of visits made during the year a fair proportion of the staffs' time was employed on council house administration.

The direct labour staff of two or three men were kept fully employed in the maintenance of council houses and buildings. At the same time the officers supervised the erection of four council flats and a pair of two bedroom houses.

B. Waiting List

Number of applicants 1st January 1959	..	..	..	..	35
Number of applicants 31st December 1959	..	..	..	..	41

C. Tenancies granted

1. In new houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
2. In new flats	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
3. In existing houses which became vacant	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
4. Transfers of tenancy within the district	..	..	..	..	..	..	3

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

A. Meat Inspection

1. Number of pigs killed and inspected and carcasses, part carcasses and organs condemned

No. killed	..	..	..	..	..	..	42,829
No. inspected	..	..	..	..	..	..	42,829
All diseases except tuberculosis							
Whole carcasses condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..	112
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,239
Percentage of carcasses affected with diseases other than tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	10.13%
Tuberculosis only							
Whole carcasses condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,520
Percentage of carcasses affected with tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.56%

2. Reasons for condemnation

The following are some of the diseases or conditions found to be affecting pigs when post mortem inspection was carried out :

Septicaemia, pyaemia, pneumonia, uraemia, bruising, peritonitis, pleurisy, icterus, swine erysipelas, pig paratyphoid, swine fever and tumours.

3. General

The pigs condemned for swine fever were sent for slaughter as being swine fever contacts, but were found to have the disease. After co-operation with an officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food the appropriate parts of the slaughterhouse were disinfected.

The total weight of meat and offal condemned as unfit for human consumption was 16.7 tons.

Once again I should like to record that the arduous task of meat inspection was greatly eased by the wholehearted co-operation given us by the management and staff of the two bacon factories.

Description of inspection procedure at a modern bacon factory

The dressing line illustrated in the photographs has a throughput of 120 pigs an hour.

The processes of slaughtering, burning and de-hairing are carried out before reaching the dressing bay shown in the photographs.

The first process is to split the underside of the pigs, when they are then eviscerated. Non-edible offal is placed in stainless steel bins to be removed to other parts of the factory where they are transformed into fertilisers and other products.

Stomachs and intestines complete with their mesenteries and spleens are placed by the slaughtermen in the rear section of the stainless steel trays, which are mounted on a conveyor belt, whilst the plucks are placed in the front section of the trays. These trays coincide in position with the particular pig from which the offal has been removed.

As the carcasses proceed down the line they are split down their backs and the vertebrae with tails attached are taken out and suspended on the gambrels.

Two qualified meat inspectors carry out their duties on the line throughout the dressing process. The first inspector incises the submaxillary glands and takes a general look at the carcass, bringing to the notice of the second inspector any abnormality that he sees. The second inspector makes a full examination of all the offal and carcasses. Offal detained for further inspection is placed in covered stainless steel bins suspended over the offal trays, whilst detained carcasses are diverted to a special line for further inspection.

B. Food Inspection

1. Milk

All eleven samples taken of Tuberculin Tested/Pasteurised milk were found to be satisfactory.

All six samples taken of raw Tuberculin Tested milk were found to be unsatisfactory. These samples were taken from one producer/retailer whose farm is situated in this district. Despite the fact that from the first sample onwards, each sample result was reported to the officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and that the matter was investigated by them, we continued to obtain these unsatisfactory results.

Three bottle rinse samples were submitted for examination during the year and all were found to be satisfactory.

2. Ice Cream

Of four samples of ice cream submitted for examination two were found to be satisfactory and two were placed in provisional grade 4 (unsatisfactory). The reasons for the unsatisfactory samples were investigated and advice given to the manufacturer.



View of one side of the Dressing Bay of a bacon factory showing commencement of dressing and inspection processes.



View of one side of the Dressing Bay of a bacon factory showing end of dressing and inspection processes.
(Photographs by courtesy of Hillier's Bacon Curing Company Limited, Newmarket, Nailsworth.)

3. Other food

The following foods on examination at the wholesale warehouses and other food shops in the town were found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered to us:—

Canned meats	..	..	..	..	393 lbs.
Canned vegetables, etc.	..	..	..	..	116 lbs.
Canned fruits	..	..	..	..	109 lbs.
Canned milk	..	..	..	..	8 lbs.
Canned fish	..	..	..	..	1 lb.
Canned soup	..	..	..	..	54 lbs.
Cheese	..	..	..	..	6 lbs.
Miscellaneous foods	..	..	..	..	54

741

The investigation of a complaint from a housewife that icing sugar used on her Christmas cake tasted queerly led to a sample of cochineal being submitted to the Public Analyst. On the strength of the analyst's report the manufacturer of the cochineal suitably compensated the housewife for her spoilt cake decorations and the retailer's stock of cochineal was withdrawn to be replaced by the manufacturer.

WATER SUPPLIES

Samples of water were taken to the laboratory for bacteriological examination with the following results:—

Type of supply	No. of samples taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Main supply	34	23	11
Private piped supply	5	3	2

In addition chemical analysis of two samples of mains water showed the water chemically pure, but very hard.

When the unsatisfactory results of the mains supply were received the Engineer of the Water Board was notified and the chlorine dosage rate was increased. Appropriate action was taken with regard to the unsatisfactory private supplies although it is interesting to note that two of the satisfactory private supply samples were taken in the course of an investigation of an outbreak of Sonn  Dysentry.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

This Council is a constituent member of the Stroud and District Joint Sewerage and Composting Board and as such has a direct interest in the running of the joint sewage disposal works. The overloading of the sewage disposal works was giving concern at the end of the year.

It must also be remembered that the sewers situated in Nailsworth, which are the responsibility of this Council, were installed

over fifty years ago and are likely in the future to be found defective and/or inadequate.

During the year fourteen cesspools in this District were emptied by the Stroud Rural District's purpose made vehicle. The sewage from these cesspools is pumped into the trunk sewers at appropriate places.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse is collected once a week in proper vehicles by Stroud Rural District Council. Controlled tipping by modern hygienic methods is employed for the disposal of refuse.

It should be noted that cost of this service, which is, of course, paid by this Council, is rising quite steeply every year, but I should like to thank Mr. H. Critchley and his staff for giving us such a good service.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Rodent Control

		Visits	Baits laid	Poison baits laid
Agricultural premises	..	1	—	—
Private dwellings	..	113	17	314
Business premises	..	35	12	72
Sewers	.. ..	63	33	3
Miscellaneous	.. ..	33	16	28
		<hr/> 245 <hr/>	<hr/> 78 <hr/>	<hr/> 417 <hr/>

This year was marked by the untimely death of Mr. H. H. Gooding, who had conscientiously served this Council as Rodent Officer with much success for many years. In fact so successful had Mr. Goodings been with his work that the Council were able to employ his successor Mr. J. H. Matthews for less time during the year and he was still able to operate an effective control over the rodents in this District.

FACTORIES ACT 1937 to 1959

PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

PREMISES	No. on register	Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(a) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	1	Nil	Nil
(b) Factories not included in (a) in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	23	14	Nil	Nil
(c) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	24	15	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which defects were found

Number of cases in which defects were found

PARTICULARS	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.) ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2.) ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.) ..	2	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	3	1	Nil	Nil	Nil

3. Outwork, Sections 110 and 111

Outworkers Nil

4. Means of Escape in case of fire, Section 34

Number of visits	5
Number of notices served	Nil
Number of Certificates of Adequacy of Means of Escape issued	Nil

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS, 1928 AND 1936

Number of licensed petroleum stores 31.12.59 ..	15
Number of inspections	5

Stroud Urban District Council

Chairman :

T. JOHN, Esq., J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

Mrs. P. E. PARKER

Clerk of the Council :

H. S. GIBBONS, Esq.

Councillors :

A. E. Bullock, Esq.	J. T. Hall, Esq.
G. H. Bullock, Esq.	D. A. V. Harper, Esq.
T. B. Cameron, Esq.	J. Hillier, Esq.
H. L. Dean, Esq.	F. W. Jenkinson, Esq.
Mrs. L. M. Fern	D. Johnson, Esq.
J. Flynn, Esq.	Mrs. P. D. Michael
V. F. P. Frowen, Esq.	W. K. Preston, Esq., J.P.
E. Geddes, Esq.	J. D. Waters, Esq.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

W. J. DOUGLAS COOPER, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H

Chief Public Health Inspector :

G. G. CRITCHLEY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :

L. G. NORMAN, M.A.P.H.I., S.R.N.

First Additional Public Health Inspector :

V. G. CATER, M.A.P.H.I

Second Additional Public Health Inspector :

W. L. FISHER, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Temporary Additional Public Health Inspector

D. F. M. LODGE, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Pests Officers :

H. H. GOODINGS to 10.2.59
J. H. R. MATTHEWS from 20.4.59

Public Health Department Clerks :

Mrs. M. J. Cooper Miss A. Dean

PART I

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres)	2,779
Population (1951 Census)	15,977
Population (Registrar General 1959)	16,250
Estimated number of inhabited houses	5,451
Rateable value at 1-4-59	£245,552
Estimated produce of Penny Rate	£1,009

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

	M.	F.	Total
	113	131	244
Legitimate	109	124	233
Illegitimate	4	7	11

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 mid year Home Population	15.01
Birth Rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 Home Population	16.5
Comparability Factor for Births	1.02
Corrected Birth Rate for Stroud U.D.	15.31
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	4.5%

Still Births

	M.	F.	Total
	4	2	6
Legitimate	4	2	6
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Total Live and Still Births	250
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births)	24.0
Still Births, England and Wales, per 1,000 total Live and Still Births	21.0

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

	M.	F.	Total
	2	2	4
Legitimate	2	2	4
Illegitimate	—	—	—

CAUSES OF DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

Female	$\frac{1}{2}$ hour	Shock and Misadventure	at home
Male	7 hours	Prematurity	at home
Female	1 week	Haemorrhage into Pituitary Gland	in hospital
Male	3 days	Haemorrhagic Disease of Newborn	in hospital

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE

						M	F.	Total
							2	4
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 WEEK OF AGE

						M	F.	Total
						2	1	3
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total Infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.4
Legitimate Infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.1
Illegitimate Infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year in England and Wales per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.2
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16.4
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.8
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.3
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39.1
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34.2

MATERNAL MORTALITY (including Abortion)

Number of Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
TOTAL DEATHS IN STROUD URBAN DISTRICT	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	214

Male Deaths

In District =	76
Transferable =	30
Total	106

Female Deaths

In District =	74
Transferable =	34
Total	108

Average Age of Male Deaths in District	...	...	...	...	70.95 years
Average Age of Female Deaths in District	...	...	...	...	72.5 years
Average Age of Male Transferable Deaths	...	...	...	...	62.6 years
Average Age of Female Transferable Deaths	...	...	...	...	71.6 years
Average Age of all Male Deaths	...	...	...	...	68.6 years
Average Age of all Female Deaths	...	...	...	...	72.2 years
Average Age of all Deaths in Stroud Urban District	...	...	...	...	70.42 years
Death Rate, England & Wales, per 1,000 Home Population	...	...	...	...	11.6
Crude Death Rate for Stroud Urban District per 1,000 estimated mid-year population	...	...	...	...	13.1
Comparability Factor for Deaths	...	...	...	...	0.89
Therefore Corrected Death Rate	...	...	...	...	= 11.65

70 deaths took place in the district which are transferable to other areas for purposes of Annual Death Statistics. The majority of these would have taken place in Stroud General Hospital.

Causes of Deaths

	Under 1 yr.	1–	5–	15–	25–	45–	65–	75–	Total
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Malignant neoplasm of stomach ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	6
Malignant neoplasm of lung and bronchus ...	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	7
Malignant neoplasm of breast ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	4
Malignant neoplasm of uterus ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	—	—	—	—	1	9	4	6	20
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diabetes ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	—	—	—	—	1	8	5	18	32
Coronary disease, angina ...	—	—	—	—	—	9	18	20	47
Hypertension with heart disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Other heart disease ...	—	—	—	—	1	3	9	26	39
Other circulatory disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	3
Pneumonia ...	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	9	14
Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis ...	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	3
Hyperplasia of prostate ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	2	—	—	—	1	2	—	5	10
Motor vehicle accidents ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All other accidents ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
Suicide ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total									214

MOST COMMON CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1959

(i) Heart Disease ...	88 cases
(ii) Cancer ...	39 cases
(iii) Vascular Intracranial Lesions ...	32 cases
(iv) Pneumonia ...	14 cases
(v) Other Defined and Ill Defined Diseases ...	10 cases

TYPES OF CANCER DEATHS

Cancer of Stomach	...	...	...	...	6 cases
Cancer of Thyroid	...	...	...	...	2 cases
Cancer of Pancreas	...	...	...	...	1 case
Cancer of Uterus	...	...	...	...	2 cases
Cancer of Lung	...	...	...	...	7 cases
Cancer of Prostate	...	...	...	...	2 cases
Cancer of Liver	...	...	...	...	1 case
Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	...	4 cases
Cancer of Cheek	...	...	...	...	1 case
Cancer of Ovary	...	...	...	...	3 cases
Cancer of Rectum	...	...	...	...	3 cases
Cancer of unspecified region	...	...	...	...	2 cases
Cancer of Oesophagus	...	...	...	...	1 case
Cancer of Colon	...	...	...	...	1 case
Cancer of Bone	...	...	...	...	1 case
Hodgkins Disease	...	...	...	...	1 case
Cancer of Salivary Gland	...	...	...	...	1 case
Total					39 cases

LONGEVITY TABLE

Age Group		Males	Females	Total
0— 5 years	... ..	2	2	4
5— 10 years	... ..	—	—	—
10— 20 years	... ..	1	—	1
20— 30 years	... ..	—	—	—
30— 40 years	... ..	3	3	6
40— 50 years	... ..	4	5	9
50— 60 years	... ..	13	9	22
60— 70 years	... ..	26	15	41
70— 80 years	... ..	31	30	61
80— 90 years	... ..	23	34	57
90—100 years	... ..	3	10	13
Totals		106	108	214

The oldest male to die during the year was 92 years and the oldest female was 97 years. It is interesting to note again that the female sex live to an older age group e.g. 34 females died in group 80-90 years as compared with 23 males, and 10 females lived to over 90 years as compared with 3 males.

MONTHS OF THE YEAR IN WHICH DEATHS TOOK PLACE

January	..	...	...	...	21
February	...	...	...	...	26
March	...	...	...	...	26
April	..	...	...	...	13
May	...	...	...	...	13
June	...	...	...	...	20
July	...	...	...	...	14
August	...	...	...	...	9
September	...	...	...	...	14
October	...	...	...	...	12
November	...	...	...	...	21
December	...	...	...	...	25

The worst months of the year for deaths during 1959 were January, February, November and December.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN AGE GROUPS 1959

Disease	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5—9 years	10—14 years	15—24 years	25 years & over	Age unknown	Total
Dysentery	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	5	—	—	7*
Measles	5	37	26	37	31	173	9	1	1	—	320
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	17	—	20
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	6
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	3
Whooping Cough	5	4	7	9	5	39	—	—	—	—	69
Total											426

* This does not include 4 cases originally notified but not confirmed

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

The following Immunisations and Vaccinations have been carried out within the District during 1959 by General Practitioners and Local Authority Doctors:—

No. of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation

	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5—9 years	10—14 years	Total
G.P.	76(64)	18(15)	7(5)	1(1)	1(1)	1(1)	—	104(87)
L.A.	106	33	2	1	5	33	3	183

No. of children who received a re-inforcing dose

	Under 1 year	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5—9 years	10—14 years	Total
G.P.	—	—	—	—	5(1)	13(2)	1(—)	19(3)
L.A.	—	—	—	—	21	448	18	487

NOTE: Figures in Brackets denote Combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough injections included in totals.

VACCINATION — SMALLPOX

	Under 1 year	1 year	2—4 years	5—14 years	15 years & over	Total
Primary	120	6	8	5	3	142
Re-Vaccination	—	—	1	4	6	11

VACCINATION — WHOOPING COUGH

	Under 1 year	1 year	2—4 years	5—14 years	Total
Whooping Cough Vaccination	79	9	1	1	90
Combined Diphtheria/Whooping Cough Prophylaxis (obtained by and given by General Practitioners)	64	15	8	3	90

TUBERCULOSIS

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis during the year and there are 174 cases remaining on the Register.

Cases on Register

Pulmonary	...	...	78	72	150
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	7	17	24
			—	—	—
			85	89	174
			—	—	—

Table showing ages of new cases and in-transfers

				New Cases				In-Transfers			
						Non-				Non-	
				Respiratory		Respiratory		Respiratory		Respiratory	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14 years	...	...	...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
15—24 years	...	...	...	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
25—44 years	...	...	...	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—64 years	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and over	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age Unknown	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The Mass Radiography Unit visited Red Cross House in September this year. 2610 persons attended by Appointment and Open Sessions, an increase of 539 over the 1958 figures. It is pleasing to record that a good number of Over 65's came along. Out of the 39 persons recalled, there were found 2 active and 5 inactive tuberculosis case and 10 non-tuberculous cases.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47

Removal of persons in need of care and attention to suitable premises

No cases arose during the year calling for action under this Act.

INTERNATIONAL VACCINATION CERTIFICATES

During the year 173 International Vaccination Certificates were signed by the General Practitioners in this district and were stamped and countersigned by me.

PART II

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for 1959. It includes contributions by the Engineer and Surveyor, Housing Manager, and the Engineer and Manager of the Stroud District Water Board and I am indebted to them for their co-operation. A special section is included on the Stratford Park Public Swimming Baths as requested by the Minister.

As in 1958, most aspects of the work of the Department proceeded satisfactorily, the main exception being slum clearance. Apart from a few individual unfit houses dealt with, slum clearance was virtually at a standstill; in fact not one family was re-housed by the Council from the Bisley Old Road/Middle Hill/Summer Street Clearance Area during the year. Furthermore it seems doubtful whether it will be possible for any further Clearance Areas to be represented until 1961, which is indeed disappointing.

Meat inspection again received due attention and a 100% post mortem examination of all animals slaughtered in the district, for sale for human consumption, was maintained. This is particularly gratifying in view of the fact that slaughtering was carried out, with subsequent inspection, on 352 of the 365 days in the year. At Ebley Abattoir slaughtering took place on 48 Sundays out of 52 but the average kill was less than 7% of the total throughput. On one Sunday one beast only was slaughtered and on two other Sundays two cattle only. Regular Sunday slaughtering, which was only introduced during the war years—when it was necessary and vital—hardly appears to be justified in this modern age of cold stores and refrigeration and it is to be hoped that the Company concerned will be able to resolve the position in the near future.

The Dustbin Maintenance Scheme continued to operate satisfactorily, there now being only a relatively small number of properties in the district without proper dustbins.

Whilst it can be recorded that many food shops in the district now attain a good standard of hygiene there is still room for considerable improvement in certain premises. Some cake shops, for instance, still seem content to allow assistants to handle cakes with fingers instead of tongs. Other traders continue to display food in the open air which, although not contravening legislation, does not appear to be in keeping with the year 1960. Many licensed premises, too, require improvements, which are long overdue.

It was very gratifying to see the new Public Conveniences at Bedford Street opened during the year. They are of a very high standard and will indeed be an amenity to the town. The experi-

ment of having them completely free appeared to be working well at the end of the year.

A disturbing feature in the town area is the growing nuisance caused by the fouling of pavements by dogs and legislation to control this nuisance certainly appears to be necessary.

There were no staff changes during 1959, although Mr. L. G. Norman was away from the Department through illness for some seven months. Mr. D. Lodge left at the end of December to take up an appointment with Nailsworth Urban District Council.

May I again thank the Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Health Committee and all members of the Council for their support during the year, and also the staff of the Health Department for once again working together as a team and so enabling the various duties to be carried through efficiently and smoothly.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. G. CRITCHLEY,

Chief Public Health Inspector

CO-OPERATION WITH OUTSIDE AUTHORITIES

The close co-operation which has always existed with officers of neighbouring Authorities has again been evident during the year, whilst the usual good liaison with officers of other public authorities, with whom it has been necessary to work, has also been maintained. In regard to the latter I would particularly like to acknowledge the assistance the Department has received from

- (i) The Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.
- (ii) H.M. Inspector of Factories.
- (iii) The County Fire Prevention Officers of the Gloucestershire County Fire Service.
- (iv) The Public Analyst for the City of Bristol and County of Gloucestershire.
- (v) The Director of the Public Health Laboratory, Bristol.
- (vi) The Inspector of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Stroud area.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS DURING THE YEAR

Dwelling houses inspected under the Housing Act and Public Health Act	289
Re-inspections of houses	176
Visits in connection with Council House applicants	199
Miscellaneous visits re. housing	20
Visits re. Rent Act	13
Visits re. general complaints and nuisances	145
Miscellaneous visits	560
Visits to caravan sites and moveable dwellings	28
Visits re. infestations	24
Visits re. Dustbin Maintenance Scheme and Refuse Disposal	164
Visits re. drainage	254
Visits to water courses	23
Visits re. infectious disease investigations	24
Visits to schools	10
Visits to cinemas and places of entertainment	47
Visits to factories, outworkers	65
Smoke observations	5
Visits re. atmospheric pollution	76
Visits to Petroleum Stores	69
Shops inspected under Shops Act, 1950	25
Visits to Slaughterhouses	1,479
Visits to Food Shops	247
Visits to Mobile food shops	22
Visits to Cafes and Restaurants	54
Visits to Factory and School canteens and Hospital kitchens	29
Visits to Bakehouses	15
Visits to Licensed premises	165
Visits to Premises registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, including ice cream premises	37
Visits to Dairies, Milk shops, etc.	29
Visits to Swimming Pool re. tests	88
Visits re. Water supplies	85
Visits to Pet shops	4
Visits re. Housing Survey of domestic amenities	461
Total number of visits and inspections	4,931
Total number of visits and inspections in connection with rodent control	1,924

HOUSING

A. Clearance Areas

(i) Hill Street (No. 1) Area Compulsory Purchase Order, 1956

By the end of the year there were still no definite plans for the re-development of this area. All properties were demolished and the site cleared in 1957.

(ii) Bisley Old Road/Middle Hill/Summer Street (No. 2) Area Compulsory Purchase Order, 1957.

No further families were re-housed by the Council from this area during the year. Three properties however were vacated, leaving 19 of the 57 houses in the Area still occupied.

B. Individual Demolition and Closing Action

Of 20 unfit houses dealt with individually, 6 were the subject of Demolition Orders whilst Closing Orders were made on 14. Existing Closing Orders on three houses were revoked in favour of Demolition Orders. Thirteen houses were demolished during the year, 12 of these being in respect of Orders made prior to 1.1.59.

C. Houses Rendered Fit

Two houses were rendered fit for habitation during the year, one of these being the subject of an Undertaking given in 1958.

D. Slum Clearance Programme

No new Clearance Areas were declared during the year and progress was limited to a small number of unfit houses either where they became void or where the occupants were re-housed by the Council.

The detailed figures show that 55.1% of the original estimate of unfit houses in the district had been dealt with by 31st December 1959.

E. Details of Unfit Houses dealt with in 1959

(i)	Number of houses in Clearance Areas declared during period	Nil
(ii)	Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made (including houses on which Demolition Orders were made following revocation of Closing Orders)	9
(iii)	Number of houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made (not including any in Clearance Areas)	14
(iv)	Number of houses subject to Official Undertakings (not including any in Clearance Areas)	Nil
(v)	Houses made fit for human habitation	
	(a) Houses made fit under Section 9, Housing Act 1957	Nil
	(b) Houses included in (iii) or (iv) made fit during the period	1
	(c) Houses subject to Closing Orders or Undertakings prior to 1-1-59 made fit	1
	(d) Houses made fit by normal action	Nil
(vi)	Number of unfit houses acquired by Local Authority (excluding houses in above categories)	Nil
(vii)	Houses actually demolished	53
(viii)	Number of houses dealt with in 1959	19
(ix)	Total number of unfit houses included in original estimate of 374 dealt with up to 31-12-59	206

F. Rent Act

Certificates of Disrepair Applied for, Issued and Cancelled

Part I—Applications for Certificates of Disrepair

(i)	Number of applications for certificates	9
(ii)	Number of decisions not to issue certificates	Nil
(iii)	Number of decisions to issue certificates	
	(a) in respect of some but not all defects	3
	(b) in respect of all defects	6
(iv)	Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	4
(v)	Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	Nil
(vi)	Number of certificates issued	5

Part II—Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

(vii)	Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(viii)	Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(ix)	Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenant's objection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(x)	Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

G. Report on Housing by the Engineer and Surveyor, T. G. Askew, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., A.M.I.Mun.E.

(i)	Number of Council Houses erected 1959	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
(ii)	Number of Council Flats erected 1959	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(iii)	Number of Private Enterprise Houses erected 1959	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	115
(iv)	Number of Council Houses under construction 31-12-59	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(v)	Number of Council Flats under construction 31-12-59	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
(vi)	Number of Private Enterprise houses under construction 31-12-59	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
(vii)	Number of Improvement Grants approved 1959	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33

H. Report on Housing by the Housing Manager, F. J. Pugh, A.I.Hsg., A.R.S.H.

(i) Waiting List

Number of applicants on waiting list 1-1-59	...	...	...	...	506
Number of applicants on waiting list 31-12-59	...	...	...	...	500

(ii) Families re-housed

Number of families re-housed during 1959					
(a)	in new houses	...	...	...	10
(b)	in new flats	...	...	...	2
(c)	in existing houses or flats which became vacant	...	...	...	36
					48

(iii) Exchanges and transfers of tenancy

(a)	within district	...	...	...	...	30
(b)	between tenants in Stroud Urban and other districts	...	...	...	...	5
						35

(iv) General

At the 31st December, 1959, there were, excluding slum clearance, 300 applications for Council houses. Of these 92 were in respect of aged persons requiring flats or bungalow accommodation. During 1959, 109 applications were received for all classes of accommodation, being a slight increase on the preceding year.

Forty-eight families were re-housed during the year — 12 in new houses and the remainder in accommodation that became available for re-letting. Of the 36 tenants who left Council properties during the year, 19 purchased or acquired private properties. The re-lets during 1959 were in excess of those in 1958 (32) but were still slightly below the average.

The policy of allowing tenants to exchange or transfer their tenancies to make the best use of the houses was continued, and there were also 5 exchanges which involved other authorities.

The policy of exterior maintenance of Council houses was continued, and some 150 houses were completely overhauled and re-painted during the season.

A scheme for the internal improvement of the older type of Council houses was commenced during the year with a pilot scheme embracing 7 different types of houses. This involved the installation of a hot water system and wash-basin and the renewal, where necessary, of the remainder of the sanitary ware. Also included was the plastering of the rough brickwork to the sculleries.

The pilot scheme was dealt with successfully and economically, and it is hoped to commence a major scheme in the near future.

I. Inspection of Premises in respect of Council House Applicants

111 reports were made for consideration by the Housing Committee, involving 199 visits.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

A. General

Both the Ebley Abattoir and Bacon Factory were again in use for the slaughtering and dressing of animals for human consumption. As usual, slaughtering was carried on at the Abattoir seven days a week, apart from an occasional Saturday or Sunday during a Bank Holiday week-end. Evening work was continued up to 7 p.m. on several days of each week.

At the Bacon Factory two officers were again required for duty from 7.30 a.m. to mid-morning whenever slaughtering was in progress, whilst attendance was also necessary on one occasion on a Sunday afternoon, when over 100 pigs were slaughtered and dressed.

B. Ebley Abattoir

The beginning of 1959 saw the complete take-over of the Abattoir by the Cotswold Wholesale Meat Co. Ltd. The Company agreed that the Council should retain the existing office and facilities for the use of the Meat Inspectors.

With effect from 1st March, 1959, the county of Gloucestershire was subjected to a Tuberculosis Eradication Order. This meant the subjection of all cattle in the county to the Tuberculin Test and the slaughter of all reactors.

Thus from March to September large numbers of reactors were slaughtered at Ebley Abattoir, although after September the numbers dropped considerably. The many reactor animals caused the percentage of cows affected with tuberculosis to rise to 26.82% as compared with 17.4% in 1958.

Apart from the reactors a feature of the year's work was that out of all the cattle received from markets and farms both in and outside the county, only a very few were found to be affected with tuberculosis, thus proving the effectiveness of the Ministry

Eradication Scheme. These isolated cases were reported to the Ministry so that the movements of the infected animals could be traced.

Of 225 calves examined only one was found to be affected with tuberculosis and this one had been sent in as a reactor.

C. Tuberculosis Order

One cow was sent in for slaughter under the Tuberculosis Order, post-mortem examination revealing tuberculous lesions localised in the udder.

D. Tuberculous Reactors

231 cattle were sent in to the Abattoir as reactors by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. In every case post-mortem examinations were made in co-operation with Veterinary Officers of the Ministry. Three complete carcasses and organs were condemned with generalised tuberculosis while in the remaining cases it was only found necessary to condemn part carcasses and/or organs.

E. Table showing percentage of cows slaughtered at Ebley Abattoir during the last nine years and found to be affected with tuberculosis

1951 — 28.75%	1956 — 26.40%
1952 — 19.05%	1957 — 29.20%
1953 — 18.32%	1958 — 17.49%
1954 — 26.15%	1959 — 26.82%
1955 — 27.89%	

F. Bacon Factory

The number of pigs slaughtered and dressed in the Bacon Factory showed a slight decrease compared with the previous year.

Details of pigs slaughtered and dressed at the bacon factory for the past five years

1955 — 34,390
1956 — 27,913
1957 — 26,685
1958 — 30,393
1959 — 28,627

G. Casualty Animals

Numerous animals were admitted to the Abattoir and Bacon Factory for emergency slaughter due to a wide variety of causes. These included calving, lambing and farrowing difficulties, septic conditions, swine erysipelas and oedema.

H. Ante-mortem Inspection

Ante-mortem inspection of animals awaiting slaughter was carried out, particular attention being paid to casualty animals.

I. Diseases of Animals Acts

Widespread outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease in and around Gloucestershire at the end of the year created many difficulties, particularly for the Christmas trade.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food stopped the movement of live animals from one infected area to another and thus it was necessary for the Bacon Factory to arrange for pigs to be slaughtered on farms and transported to the factory for dressing, which is never a very satisfactory procedure.

During the year a casualty steer was admitted to the Abattoir and during slaughter Anthrax was suspected. Information was passed to the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry, who arranged for a microscopic examination of the blood to be made. Fortunately the examination proved to be negative.

J. Post-mortem Inspection

TABLE SHOWING ANIMALS KILLED AND INSPECTED
AND CARCASSES, PART CARCASSES AND ORGANS
CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2,111	522	225	10,263	31,057
Number inspected	2,111	522	225	10,263	31,057
All Diseases except T.B.					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	2	3	5	29
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	842	222	8	421	4,928
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	39.88%	42.91%	4.88%	4.15%	15.96%
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	1	—	—	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	91	139	1	—	644
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	4.41%	26.82%	.44%	—	2.08%
Cysticercosis					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	9	1	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigera- tion	9	1	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

K. Total weight of meat and other organs condemned

Total weight of meat and organs (home killed) condemned as unfit for human consumption — 17 tons, 10 cwts.

L. Causes of Condemnation

The following details indicate some of the diseases and conditions, other than tuberculosis, affecting animals slaughtered and examined at the Abattoir and Bacon Factory.

Cattle

Actino-Bacillosis	Multiple Tumours
Generalised Oedema	Johnes Disease
Septic Mastitis & Metritis	Liver Fluke
Cysticercus Bovis	Bruising

Calves

Multiple Abscesses
Fevered
Immaturity

Sheep

Injuries and Bruising (dogs)
Lambing
Immaturity
Parasitic infections

Pigs

Multiple Tumours	Pyelo-nephritis
Septic injuries	Arthritis
Abscesses	Fevered
Moribund	Fractures
Peritonitis	Injuries

M. Cysticercus Bovis

10 cases were found in 1959 consisting of 7 heifers, 2 steers and 1 cow. In each case a single degenerate cyst was found.

Comparative percentages for last seven years

1953 — 2.60%	1957 — 0.58%
1954 — 1.23%	1958 — 0.79%
1955 — 0.68%	1959 — 0.38%
1956 — 0.81%	

N. Other Foodstuffs Condemned

The following quantities of other foods were condemned in 1959 as being unfit for human consumption:—

272 lbs. Bacon	6 lbs. Poultry
6 lbs. Ham	20 Grouse
12 lbs. Imported Calves Liver	365 tins Meat and meat products
20 lbs. Cooked Meats	857 tins Vegetables
74 lbs. Sausages	838 tins Fruit and Preserves
43 Meat Pies	162 tins Milk and Milk Products
63 Cutlets and Hamburgers	311 tins Fish
633 tins /pkts. Cereals, sweetened foods and flavouring compounds	
3 lbs. Butter	10 lbs. Sugar
69 lbs. Cheese	16 lbs. Dried Fruit
34 lbs. Cake	59 lbs. Wet Fish

O. Special Examination of Stocks and Foodstuffs

At the request of an auctioneer who had instructions to dispose of the stock and other items from an hotel business which was being discontinued, inspections were made of all foodstuffs. It was found that much of the canned and packed goods were very old stock, and 42 tins of fruit, 140 tins of meat and fish, 180 tins and bottles of vegetables and 134 tins and packets of sundry other foodstuffs were considered to be unfit for human consumption. They were surrendered voluntarily and disposed of by the Council.

P. The Slaughterhouses (Meat Inspection Grant) Regulations, 1958

These Regulations provide for the payment of special exchequer grants to local authorities who are required to inspect export meat, that is, meat in excess of local requirements. A grant of £523 was received for the year ending 31st March, 1959. The actual cost of inspecting "export" meat is considerably in excess of this figure and the formula on which the Ministry grant is based remains unrealistic.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Bristol Public Health Laboratory and the County Public Analyst's Department were again available for the submission of samples and for advice during 1959.

Samples that have been submitted include water, milk, ice cream, lead peroxide candles, deposit gauges, meat specimens, food containing extraneous matter and faecal specimens.

As in previous years the service provided has been excellent.

MILK

A. General

There are 8 registered dairies, other than farm dairies, within the district and 27 retail dealers. The majority of retailers deal in pasteurised milk from one central depot which produces the bulk of the supplies. Four retailers are licensed to deal in Tuberculin Tested milk and three Supplementary Licences were issued to dairymen from other districts to retail milk in the urban area.

Four Milk Vending machines were installed in the district during the year and samples of pasteurised milk taken from them satisfied the official tests. This added service to the public presents its peculiar problem in the litter nuisance which arises from time to time.

B. Bacteriological Samples of Milk

(a) Tuberculin Tested Milk

One sample was taken which satisfied the Methylene Blue Test.

(b) Pasteurised Milk

Five samples were taken, all of which satisfied the Phosphatase and Methylene Blue tests.

No samples were submitted for Biological examination.

ICE CREAM

A. Sampling

One sample was taken during the year, which was quite satisfactory, being placed in Grade I.

B. Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Etc. Regulations, 1947-1952

There has been no change in the position, one firm only manufacturing ice cream and the cold mix method being used.

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES IN THE AREA BY TYPE OF BUSINESS (EXCLUDING DAIRIES)

Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Restaurants, cafes and snack bars	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Factory and school canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Fried fish premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Fishmongers and poulterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
General food shops (including sweet confectioners)	...	...	...	...	...	...	82
Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	52

FOOD PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955, AND DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS

(i) Premises registered for manufacture, storage and sale of Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	1
(ii) Premises registered for the storage and sale of Ice Cream only	...	...	...	...	...	45
(iii) Premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved foods intended for sale	...	...	...	...	...	6
(iv) Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	...	37

The number of premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream showed a further increase of three. It still appears to be the case that almost every type of food trader wishes to sell ice cream.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1955/57

Most food premises in the district now comply, from a structural point of view, with the Food Hygiene Regulations and whilst most food handlers practise good food hygiene, a small number unfortunately still do not appear to appreciate the need for complete cleanliness. Persons handling food for sale for human consumption have a duty to the public at large and should do everything possible to prevent the risk of contamination. If only the elementary rules of food hygiene are adhered to strictly, the risk of food poisoning is reduced very considerably.

STATUTORY ACTION TAKEN UNDER FOOD AND DRUGS
ACT 1955

Two prosecutions were taken during the year, both cases concerning extraneous matter in bread.

In the first case two cockroaches were found in a loaf purchased from a local shop, baked at premises outside the district. The second concerned parts of an insect, identified as a cockroach, found in a loaf baked and sold from premises within the district. Both prosecutions were successful, the defendants being fined £15 and £20 respectively with costs.

A further complaint of foreign matter, resembling wood, in bread was not proceeded with, but a warning letter was sent to the Bakery Company concerned, which was situated outside the district.

LECTURES ON FOOD HYGIENE

A number of talks were given by members of the Staff to local organisations. Such talks provide an excellent medium for emphasising the need for food hygiene, not only in shops but in the home, factories and so on.

FOOD HAWKERS

The Council adopted the appropriate section of the Gloucestershire County Council Act 1956, which empowers local authorities to register Hawkers of Food and their premises.

Three traders have so far been registered under the Act and now comply with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955, including the provision of a sink with hot water. One trader has also provided refrigeration to his van.

Number of mobile shops inspected	...	...	...	9
Visits in connection with mobile shops	...	...	...	22

Some difficulty was experienced with food exposed for sale in the open air and it is felt that this practice is undesirable, particularly in the centre of the town where the food is open to considerable risk of contamination.

LICENSED PREMISES

A new Survey of all licensed premises in the district has been carried out during the year. The Survey indicated that many of the premises fall short of the basic requirements of the Public Health Act 1936 and the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955.

A number of schedules detailing the works necessary to bring the premises up to the basic standard were sent to the owners concerned and it is to be hoped that real progress will be made during 1960.

Number of licensed premises	...	...	...	...	52
Number of inspections and visits made	...	...	...	...	165

WATER SUPPLY

A. Report on the Water Supply of the District by A. N. Peters, A.M.Inst.C.E., M.Inst.W.E., Engineer and Manager, Stroud District Water Board

(i) Sources of supply and means of storage and distribution

The supply to the Urban District is mainly from the water pumped at Chalford to the Covered Service Reservoir at Bisley Old Road. From the Covered Service Reservoir an elevated tank is fed and this supplies the houses above the Reservoir.

No extensions to the Mains were made during the year, although a temporary supply was laid from the Board's main to a standpipe at Callowell, following heavy contamination of the local spring supply.

(ii) Quality and quantity

The feature of the year was the extremely dry period from May until the end of November. Owing to this period the yield of water from Gainey's Well and the Gathering Ground almost ceased, but the supply was maintained in the area by additional water from Chalford.

The heavy rains during the latter part of November and December have restored the position and by the end of the year the yield from all the Board's sources was normal.

(iii) Results of Analyses

(a) Samples of untreated waters

Location	No. of Samples	No. of samples with B. COLI. present per 100 mls.				
		0	1	3	5	10
Gathering Ground	... 4	—	1	—	2	1
Gainey's Well	... 2	—	—	1	—	1
Chalford	... 10	4	5	0	1	0

(b) Samples of water as supplied to Consumers

Location	No. of Samples	No. of samples with B. COLI. present per 100 mls.			
		0	1	2	5
Acre Street	... 10	9	1	—	—
Gainey's Well	... 11	10	1	—	—
Chalford Valley	... 8	8	—	—	—

(iv) Plumbo solvent action

The water supply has no plumbo solvent action.

(v) Action taken in respect of any form of contamination

All water is chlorinated and no other action was necessary during the year.

(vi) Details of dwelling houses supplied from public mains and population served

Estimated number of dwelling houses supplied from public water mains	... ..	5,197
Estimated number of population supplied	... ..	16,130

B. Work in connection with Water Supply carried out by Health Department

(i) General

A total of 34 water samples, including those from Stratford Park Swimming Pool, were submitted during the year for bacteriological examination. Three samples were submitted for chemical analysis.

(ii) Spring and well water

A series of samples was taken from two spring sources and one well water.

In one case the spring supply was the only water for a small hamlet on the edge of the district. The laboratory analysis showed the water to be polluted and a temporary mains water supply was brought to the hamlet, pending negotiations with the owners for a more permanent provision. By the end of the year agreement had been reached for an extension of the Water Board's main to be laid.

In the other case a number of owner-occupied houses were involved, the spring supply in this instance being open to a pollution, the source of which cannot be traced. However, it is hoped eventually to persuade the owners to connect to the main supply.

The well, which served two cottages, was found to be heavily contaminated. One cottage was provided with a mains supply within the house. The other cottage was unfit for habitation and Closing Order action was taken by the Council when the tenant was re-housed at the end of the year.

(iii) Mains water

One sample was taken following complaint, the domestic supply being through a storage cistern. This tank was cleaned out prior to sampling and the water was found to be quite satisfactory.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS—STRATFORD PARK

Report by the Engineer and Surveyor

(a) General Description

The Public Swimming Baths are situated at Stratford Park and are under the day to day supervision of the Pool Superintendent, Mr. J. C. Wheeler, G.N.A.B.S. The Baths consist of two open air pools which are constructed of reinforced concrete with smooth rendered bottom and sides. The Main pool is 55 x 20 yards with a capacity of 300,000 gallons whilst the Children's pool is 14 x 7 yards with a capacity of 9,300 gallons. The dressing rooms for males and females each consist of 54 metal open-top type cubicles with storage space for 500 clothes baskets. Communal changing rooms are also provided for the use of school parties.

Pre-cleansing facilities consist of wash hand basins, showers, footsprays and footbaths. All bathers, on leaving the dressing rooms, are required to pass through the footbaths, which contain a hypochlorite solution. The solution is changed as often as necessary during the day.



Stratford Park Swimming Pools — General View

Adequate toilets are provided—3 w.c.'s and a urinal for male bathers and 3 w.c.'s for females. There are also non-bathers' w.c.'s with access from the terraces.

A well equipped first aid room is maintained with a hand basin and hot and cold water.

During the 1959 season 136,000 persons visited the Baths, the highest number on a single day being 2,780.

(b) Source of Water for Filling

The water, which is obtained from a spring fed well adjacent to the Pool, is pumped up by means of a 3 h.p. electrically driven pump and stored in a covered concrete reservoir of 5,000 gallons capacity. It is then gravity fed by means of a three inch main to a valve in the filter house which controls the filling of the Pool.

Mains water is used to operate the chlorinator.

The water from the well is a little hard but otherwise excellent as the following analysis of a sample submitted by the Health Department shows:—

Date taken — 22-6-59						
Physical Characteristics—Clear, colourless, no odour.						
All results in parts per million						
Total Dissolved Solids	...	...	...	...	...	536
Loss on ignition	...	..	...	...	...	74
Mineral Matter	...	...	...	...	...	462
Total hardness	...	...	...	...	...	406
(a) Permanent	...	...	...	...	...	103
(b) Temporary	...	...	...	...	...	303
Chlorine (as Chloride)	...	...	...	...	...	21
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	0.01
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	0.01
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	0.76
Nitrite Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Metals	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
No charring or odour on igniting solids. pH 7.6						
Public Analyst's Remarks						
A chemically satisfactory but hard water.						

(c) Method of Treatment

Continuous filtration is carried out by two horizontal filters each 18 ft. x 8 ft. They are of the sand filled pressure type and are capable of filtering 50,000 gallons per hour. The water is taken from the Main pool for filtering by two outlets in the centre where the depth is 10 ft., and returned clean by five inlets at either

end. A portion of the filtrate can be diverted to flow over a cascade. The Children's pool is served by the same system. A scum channel runs the full length of the Main pool along each side, the water flowing to the sewer.

Break point chlorination is practised, the chlorine being applied by a Wallace and Tiernan manually controlled chlorinator, capable of a maximum output of 100 lbs. per 24 hours. This gives from 3 to 4 parts per million of free chlorine at the point of inlet, dropping to 1.00/0.5 parts per million at the outlet.

Alkaline solution made with either sodium carbonate or sodium hydroxide flake is fed by Wallace and Tiernan Hydraulic Solution Feeder, which automatically adjusts the dose in proportion to the setting of the chlorine dose. The point of injection is just before the centrifugal pump and prior to filtration, thus ensuring a good mix.

Alumina sulphate was added after each backwash of the filters.

(d) **Frequency of changing the water**

The Pool is drained out, cleaned, painted and re-filled each Spring.

Continuous filtration of 300,000 gallons at 50,000 gallons per hour gives a turnover rate of six hours.

(e) **Bacteriological examination**

Regular tests were carried out by the Public Health Department for residual chlorine and pH value and on all occasions these proved to be satisfactory.

Six check samples were also taken by that Department and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory. All were reported to be satisfactory, typical results being as follows:—

Date taken — 22-6-59

	Main Pool	Children's Pool
Colony Count on Yeastrel-Agar		
after 2 days at 37°C	4 per ml.	1 per ml.
after 3 days at 22°C	19 per ml.	17 per ml.
Presumptive Coliform Count ...	0 per 100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Faecal Coli Count	0 per 100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Confirmatory Test Escherichiacoli (faecal type 1)	Absent in 100 ml.	Absent in 100 ml.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

A. Clean Air Act 1956

(i) **New installations**

There were no applications for prior approval under Section 3 of the Act.

(ii) **Statutory action**

No statutory action was necessary during the year.

B. Visits in connection with Atmospheric Pollution and Improvements Effected

Seventy-six visits were made in connection with atmospheric pollution. The majority of the larger factories in the district are now oil fired and generally speaking these gave little cause for complaint. Occasional nuisances arose when boilers were lighted up from cold or during particularly severe spells of weather when heavy calls were made on steam for both production and heating.

In factories having solid fuel fired boilers, boiler operation was maintained in most instances, at a reasonably good standard. In two factories where extensions were carried out, additional boilers were installed to provide the extra steam required. It is also pleasing to record that not a single complaint was received during the year regarding a factory near the boundary of the district, which in previous years had given rise to a considerable nuisance. In this case improvements had been effected following advice from a Fuel Consultant and the National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service.

C. Deposit Gauges and Lead Peroxide Candles

Deposit gauges and lead peroxide candles have been sited throughout the year at the Gaumont Cinema and the Girls High School. The results for 1959 were as follows:—

Month 1959	Rainfall in Inches		Deposit of Grit in Tons per Square Mile		Milligrams in SO ₂ per 100 sq.cm. per Day	
	Gaumont Cinema	Girls High School	Gaumont Cinema	Girls High School	Gaumont Cinema	Girls High School
January ...	3.82	4.37	14.41	8.74	1.86	0.98
February .	0.47	0.43	5.50	3.39	1.49	1.15
March ...	2.85	2.33	13.68	†38.45	1.45	0.72
April ...	2.07	3.37	15.83	9.51	1.21	0.62
May ...	1.29	1.04	6.99	5.08	0.51	0.38
June ...	2.43	2.39	9.81	6.67	0.71	0.35
July ...	1.97	1.76	7.28	5.85	0.06	0.34
August ...	2.38	2.75	6.67	2.61	0.78	0.81
September	0.08	0.08	3.26	3.10	0.31	0.22
October ...	2.28	2.07	9.24	10.66	0.50	0.74
November	3.62	3.37	17.86	7.36	0.78	1.09
December	5.38	4.93	15.57	5.96	0.91	0.60

†This figure not included in Summary

Table of Comparative Averages for 1956/7/8/9

Average SO₂ mgm. per 100 sq. cm. per day

		1959	1958	1957	1956
Gaumont Cinema	...	0.88	1.31	1.41	0.84
Girls High School	...	0.67	0.75	0.95	1.27

Rainfall in inches for each year

Gaumont Cinema	...	28.6	34.6	27.9	24.1
Girls High School	...	28.9	31.7	26.7	23.0

Deposit in tons per square mile

Gaumont Cinema	...	126.1	154.9	115.6	171.8
Girls High School	...	68.9†	74.5	60.5	82.2

† for the period of 11 months

Appraisal of Results by Public Analyst

The March figure for the Girls High School site was 38.4 tons per sq. mile, an unexplained and extraordinarily high amount which might have been due to sabotage! In consequence this month's figure was omitted from the averages.

There is a continued improvement in the degree of sulphur pollution at both sites, since 1956 for the Girls High School and since 1957 for the Gaumont Cinema.

The rainfall figures are about average despite a dry summer. The figures ranged from 0.08 inches in September to 5.4 inches in December. Both February and May showed low rainfall figures of 0.45 and 1.15 inches respectively.

The deposit figures at the Gaumont Cinema site show a marked improvement over 1956 and 1958 and are more in line although not as good as 1957 data. In the individual months the lowest deposit 3.26 tons was in September (rainfall 0.08 inches) and the highest in November 17.86 tons (rainfall 3.62 inches).

Considering the Girls High School site and rejecting the remarkable 38.4 tons deposit in March, the total deposition for 11 months at 68.9 tons compares favourably with earlier years. In the eleven months the lowest deposit of 2.6 tons was in August (rainfall 2.75 inches) and the highest 10.7 tons in October (rainfall 2.07 inches).

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

**Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the
Factories Act, 1937**

PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	No. on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	20	18	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	133	47	3	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	153	65	3	Nil

2. Cases in which Defects were found

PARTICULARS	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2.)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	3	2	Nil	3	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other Offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	3	2	Nil	3	Nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list reqd. by Sect. 110(1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists. (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises. (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel— (Making etc., Cleaning and Washing)	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

No other Outworkers notified in respect of other occupations

FACTORIES ACTS 1937, SECTION 34

Although the actual number of factories subject to Section 34 has been reduced by one compared with the previous year's figures, there have been several which, for various reasons, such as new processes involving inflammable materials, or increased number of employees and so on, have had to be added. Consequently, despite the fact that 4 new certificates have been issued, there still remain three factories to be surveyed and it would seem that work under this Section can never be quite complete as circumstances will continue to change. Of those holding Certificates, two are known to require inspections because of alterations and extensions.

(i)	Number of factories inspected during year under Section 34	10
(ii)	Number of visits	26

Position at 31-12-59.

(iii)	Number of factories subject to Section 34	35
(iv)	Number holding certificates issued prior to 1-1-59	28
(v)	New certificates issued during the year	4
(vi)	Amended certificates issued during the year	5
(vii)	Number of factories still to be surveyed on 31-12-59	3

DUSTBIN MAINTENANCE SCHEME

With the continued operation of this Scheme in accordance with the provisions of Section 75 of the Public Health Act 1936, a further 46 bins were supplied by the Council and 17 rated occupiers

provided bins themselves following the service of informal notices. It is pleasing to report that within two years of the introduction of the Scheme the majority of the premises in the district now have satisfactory dustbin provision.

Number of visits made in connection with refuse collection and Dustbin Maintenance Scheme	...	...	...	...	164
Number of notices served	...	...	...	...	52
Number of dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	63

CONTROL OF MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There are three licensed sites in the district with twenty-three residential caravans, whilst five individual caravans are also licensed. Although the sites were maintained at a reasonable standard, it is felt that improvements could be effected. The site operators have co-operated as far as possible with the Health Department's suggestion that single persons only or married couples without children should be granted the tenancies of the caravans. It is still considered that the average caravan used as a permanent home is sub-standard accommodation for a family with young children.

Many enquiries were received during the year regarding possible new sites but the district is now so built up that none was found to be suitable.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

One new premises was licensed during the year, making a total of two within the district. Four inspections were made and the premises found to comply with the requirements of the Act on each occasion.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Two inspections were made of the two premises registered.
There are no manufacturers of rag flock in the district.

MORTUARY FACILITIES

The Council's Mortuary at Lansdown was available not only in respect of the Urban District but also for the surrounding districts.

Details for 1959

(i) Cases resulting from accidents within Urban District	...	Nil
(ii) Cases resulting from accidents outside Urban District	...	6
(iii) Essential cases within Urban District	...	11
(iv) All other cases	...	14

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 50

Under this Section it is the duty of the Council to cause to be buried or cremated the body of any person who has died or been found dead within the district, in any case where it appears that no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body have been made.

Two cases occurred in 1959. In the one the full cost of the burial was recovered by way of grant from the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance but in the other, due to various circumstances, the Council were called upon to pay the total cost i.e. £26 7s. 0d.

INFESTATION BY INSECT PESTS

The hot dry summer gave rise to an abnormal number of wasps, although the nuisance appeared to be less severe in the Stroud area than in other parts of the country. The Council decided that it was not a local authority's responsibility to destroy nests, except in exceptional circumstances such as illness or physical incapacity. However advice was given by the Department to anyone who enquired at the offices.

OFFENSIVE TRADE

Four inspections were made of the only offensive trade in the district—a gut cleaning and preparation premises. This factory attains a very high standard and no nuisance was caused.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Rodent Control—Figures for 1959

	Visits	Baits Laid	Poison Baits Laid
Sewers	170	34	133
Local Authority Properties	11	—	38
Business Firms with Agreements	295	72	418
Business Firms without Agreements	224	31	565
Private Dwellings	1,144	131	1,962
Miscellaneous	80	183	62
	1,924	451	3,178

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928

The Council adopted the Model Code of Conditions of Storage issued by the Home Office as a reasonable standard to implement in the district and it is hoped that a new survey of all licensed petroleum stores, commenced in 1959, will be completed in 1960. It seems probable that there will be some delay in getting all

electrically operated pumps fitted with pre-set controls or limiting devices due to shortage of the necessary equipment.

One of the worst features of the petroleum filling stations selling to the public, is the siting of some of the pumps. There are still a number with extending arms over pavements and with the ever-increasing traffic problem it seems that the time must come when all stations will have to provide forecourts where vehicles can be re-fuelled off the highway.

Number of licensed petroleum stores at 31-12-59	...	...	67
Number of inspections	...	...	69
Number of notices served	...	...	5
Number of notices complied with	...	...	5

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Report by the Engineer and Surveyor

(i) Trunk sewers — extensions

The second instalment of the Painswick Valley sewer — Gannicox to Stratford Road—was completed early in the year.

(ii) Internal sewers — extensions

The present contract was completed on the new Paganhill Lane sewer which will take the majority of the soil drainage from the Farmhill Housing Estate, at the same time providing main drainage facilities for properties in Paganhill Lane.

(iii) Need for further Schemes or extensions

The following areas still require to be sewered:—
The Westrip area
Painswick Road including Windsor Place and Callowell

(iv) Small sewage disposal plants

There are no small sewage disposal plants in the district and only a limited number of septic tank installations.

(v) Major Maintenance

The main sewer in Horns Road was found to be defective and a length of 200 yards was re-laid.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Report by the Engineer and Surveyor

(a) Collection

Refuse is collected throughout the district once per week, with two collections in the shopping streets of the town. An order has been placed for the supply of a new 18 cubic yard refuse collection vehicle.

(b) **Disposal**

Refuse was disposed of by means of controlled tipping at Minchinhampton Common on a tip shared with the Rural District Council. By the end of the year very little tipping space remained and arrangements are being made to tip on the site of old claypits at Gannicox.

(c) **Salvage**

Salvage of waste paper and scrap metal was carried out on a limited scale during 1959.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Report by the Engineer and Surveyor

New Public Conveniences were opened in Bedford Street in December. The male convenience consists of three w.c. compartments and eight urinal stalls, whilst the female convenience comprises five adult and one children's w.c. compartments. Each convenience has two wash hand basins with hot and cold water, towel machines, soap dispensers and mirrors, whilst the female convenience also has an electrically operated incinerator. The construction and fittings are of a very high standard and no charge is made to the public for the use of any of the facilities.

Obsolete conveniences at The Shambles, Sims Clock and Bank Gardens have been closed.



NEW PUBLIC CONVENIENCE, BEDFORD STREET, STROUD

Interior view of part of men's convenience showing anti-splash urinal stalls, wash hand basins with hot water, soap dispensers, towel machines, terrazzo floor and tiled walls with coved skirtings. All facilities are free.

